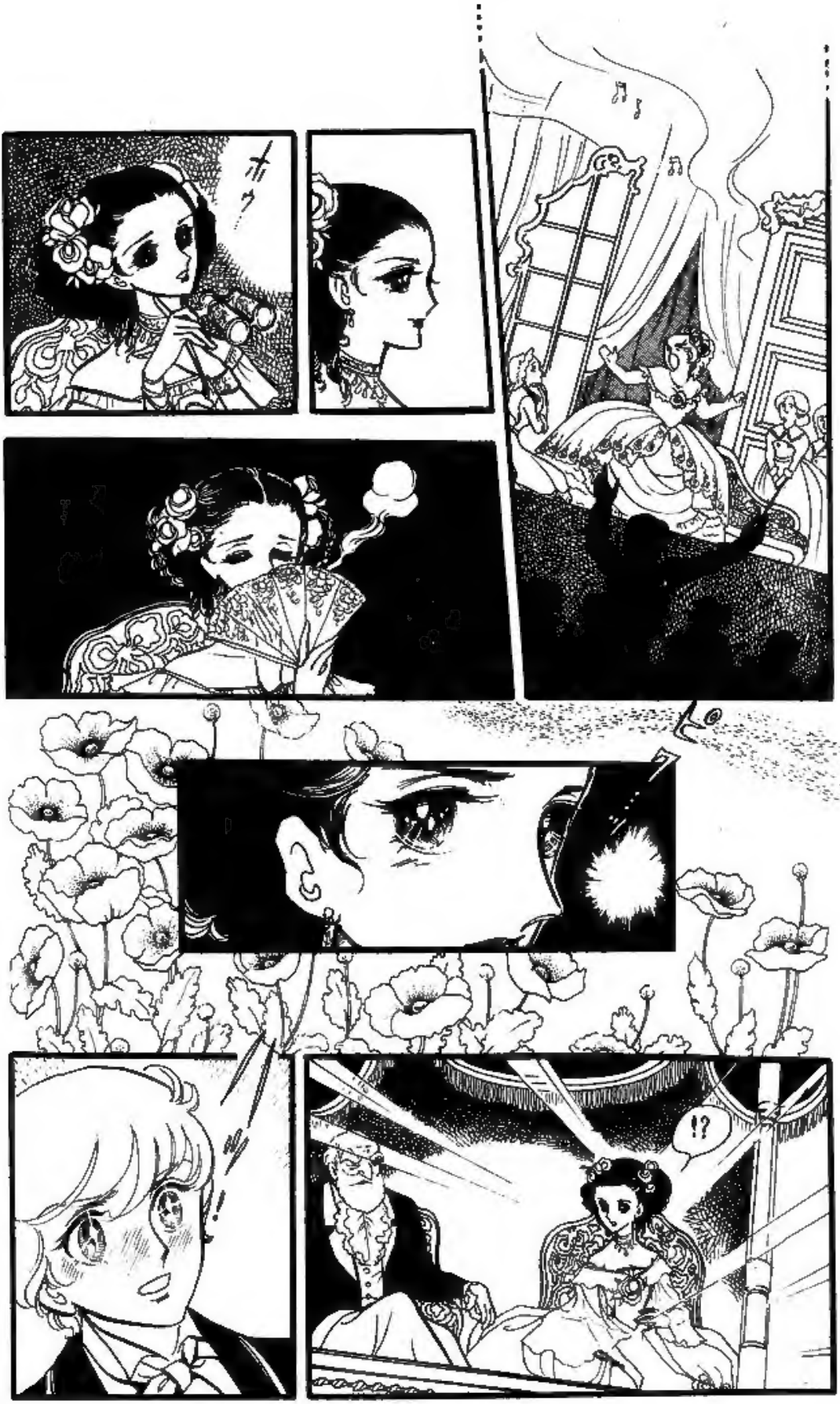
YOUNG ALFREDO'S FATHER SUGGESTED TO THE PROSTITUTE VIOLETTA THAT SHE "BREAK UP WITH HER SON FOR THE SAKE OF HIS FUTURE".
VIOLETTA, AWARE OF HER DISEASE, RESTRAINED HER HEART BURNING WITH LOVE, AND WITH A NOD PROMISED THE FATHER SHE WOULD END HER RELATIONSHIP WITH ALFREDO.
OH GOSH.
WHAT THE HECK!
IF I DO THIS I CAN PICTURE THE WHITE FACE OF A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN SO CLOSE SHE LOOKS LIKE SHE'S GOING TO KISS ME...
IT'S BEST NOT TO SEE THE REALITY
THAT DRAGS DOWN MY BEAUTIFUL IMAGINATION.

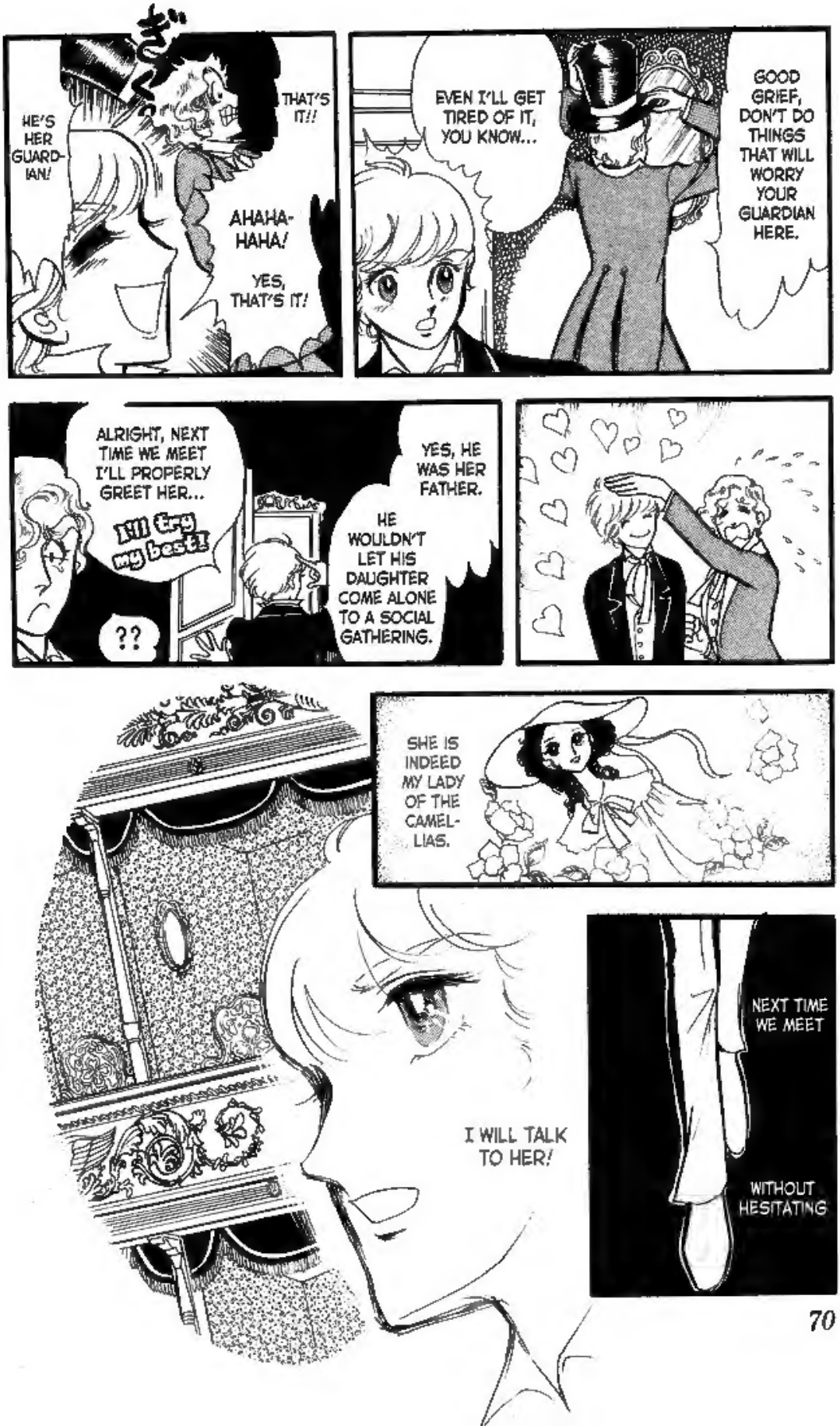
WHERE IS SHE...
THERE'S NO WAY A PERSON LIKE THAT WOULD BE LOST IN THE CROWD.
SHE OUGHT TO STAND OUT...
ズーン
AH!
HOW LUCKY!

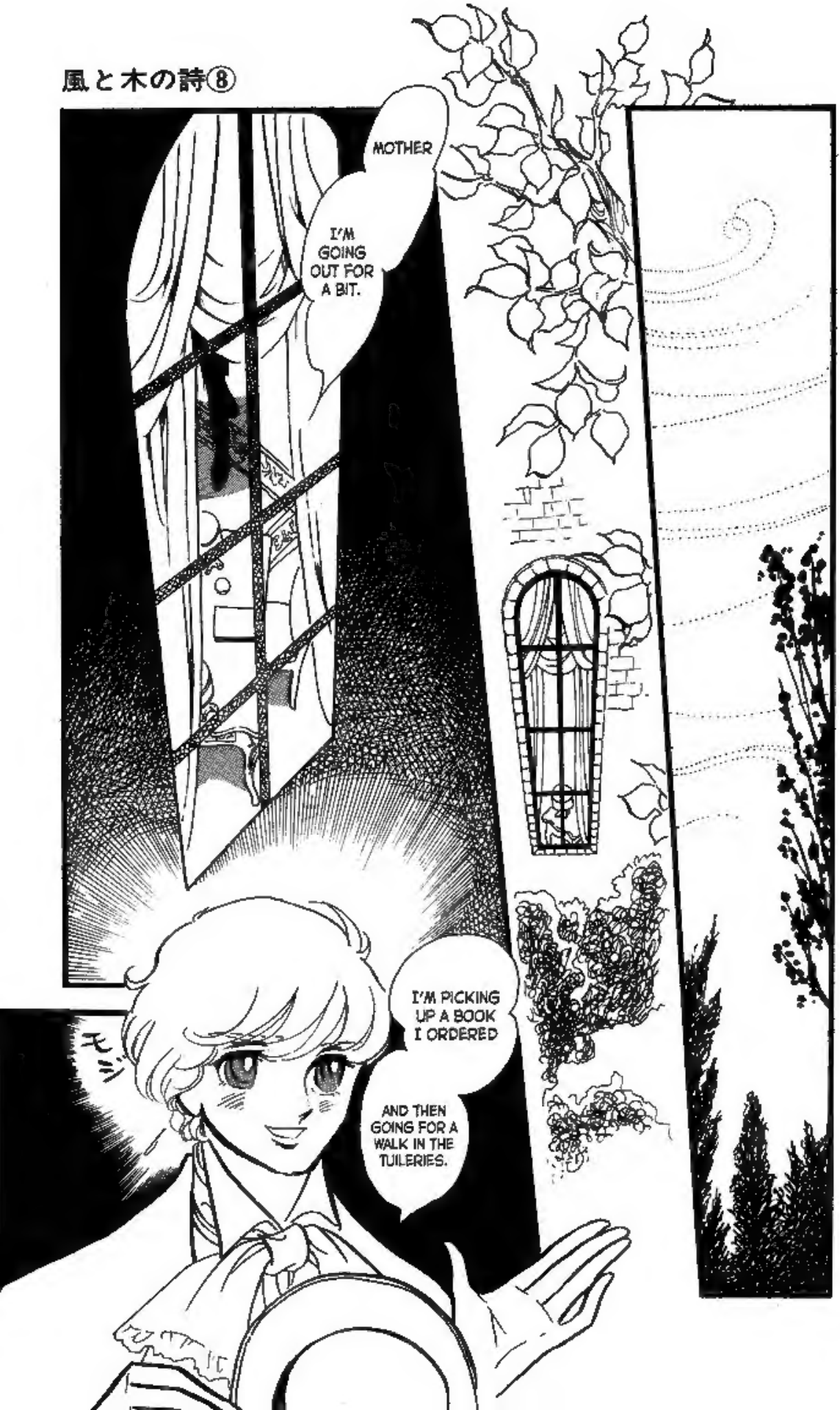


ガタッ
ギュッ

AH……

CLAP
CLAP
!?
OH...
OH... IS IT OVER?
W- WHA- WHAT HAP- PENED!
!?
WHO WAS HE?!
THAT MAN, WHO...
.....
HUH... HEY! ARE YOU...
BUT HER VOICE WAS QUITE GOOD.
AH, WHAT A SHAME, THE BEAUTIFUL GIRL WAS CARRIED AWAY BY THE DREAM, HUH.
AAAH! I AM!
AH...
ASLAN BATTOUR!! IF YOU'RE CONCIOUS, ACT LIKE IT!


HE'S HER GUARD-IAN!
THAT'S IT!!
AHAHA-HAHA!
YES, THAT'S IT!
EVEN I'LL GET TIRED OF IT, YOU KNOW...
GOOD GRIEF, DON'T DO THINGS THAT WILL WORRY YOUR GUARDIAN HERE.
ALRIGHT, NEXT TIME WE MEET I'LL PROPERLY GREET HER...
I'll try my best!
??
YES, HE WAS HER FATHER.
HE WOULDN'T LET HIS DAUGHTER COME ALONE TO A SOCIAL GATHERING.
SHE IS INDEED MY LADY OF THE CAMEL-LIAS.
I WILL TALK TO HER!
NEXT TIME WE MEET
WITHOUT HESITATING


MOTHER
I'M GOING OUT FOR A BIT.
I'M PICKING UP A BOOK I ORDERED
AND THEN GOING FOR A WALK IN THE TUILERIES.

HUM... WELL...
OH, AGAIN? YOU'VE BEEN GOING OUT QUITE A BIT LATELY.
EVEN THOUGH YOU USED TO LIKE SILENTLY READING AT HOME.
.....
WELL THEN!
.....
YES!
HE'S LEARNING HOW TO SOCIALISE, IT'S NO PROBLEM. IT'S GOOD FOR HIM TO MINGLE AND ABSORB WHAT HE SEES.
SOMEONE WHO GRADUATED ONE YEAR EARLY HAD NO TIME TO HAVE FUN. HE OUGHT TO GET THAT TIME BACK NOW.

THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO TELL YOU.
EVERYTHING IS EXPERIENCE. BUT NEVER STRAY AWAY FROM YOUR PATH.
ASLAN!
YES...
THE 1860S PERIOD
WHEN NAPOLEON III'S SECOND EMPIRE WAS BLOSSOMING
TUILERIES PALACE, THE CENTER OF POLITICS, WAS ALSO THE CENTER OF PARIS' HIGH SOCIETY.

ザワ
ザワザワ
OH, YOU'VE GROWN SO MUCH!
AH... GREET-INGS.
OH, GREETINGS! YOU'RE THE SON OF VISCOUNT BATTOUR, CORRECT?
I'M PLEASED TO MEET YOU AT THIS PLA--- HUH?
I OFTEN SEE YOU AT THE OPERA, YES? BUT I RARELY SEE YOU AT THE SALON...
LONGCHAMP RACECOURSE
ドドドドド

NOT HERE...
THE CROQUET CLUB
EVEN THE CAFÉ
THE ART GALLERY
THE BILLIARDS
EVERY SINGLE SMALL RECITAL
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
I TRIED GOING EVERYWHERE I COULD...
BUT DESPITE THAT, I DIDN'T CATCH EVEN A GLIMPSE OF HER.

I'LL STUDY IN THE EVENING. ONCE I FIND WHO I'M LOOK NG FOR, WE'LL RESUME OUR NORMAL SCHEDULE.
FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, M. DURANT. ALL I WANT IS TIME.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WANT TO DO BY GOING OUT DURING STUDY HOURS, BUT TO DE-CEIVE YOUR PARENTS...
ASLAN! HAVE YOU BEEN LYING TO ME?!
HEEEY!
ASLAN!
FRANÇOIS!
I FINALLY GOT YOU! YOU RASCAL, I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU AROUND LATELY!
BE WARNED, I'M HAVING YOU SPEND TIME WITH ME UNTIL IT'S TIME TO GO HOME!
I'M NOT LETTING YOU ESCAPE TODAY!

WATTS-SENPAI!
I TOLD YOU TO CALL ME THAT! YOU GET ONE MORE CUP AS PUNISHMENT!
?
NO, FRANÇOIS! I CAN'T DRINK ANY MORE!
MM...
A WELL-MANNERED YOUNG LORD... ARE YOU OK WITH YOUR MUMMY GIVING YOU A SPANKING?
IF YOU DON'T, I WON'T TAKE YOU BACK HOME THIS EVENING.
FRANÇOIS...
THE REASON WHY YOU WENT AS FAR AS GOING BEHIND YOUR PARENTS' BACK TO GO TO THE SALON YOU SUPPOSEDLY HATE SO MUCH!
IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, TELL ME YOUR REASON...
OH...! YOU SAID IT! ISN'T IT WONDERFUL. LET'S GET EVEN. YOU'RE AN ADULT MAN WHO THREW SAND EVEN AT THE EYES OF HIS FRIEND.
WATTS!
WHAT'S WITH THAT TALK!

I'LL DRINK.
IS THAT SO
SHUT UP! I CAN'T FORGIVE YOU FOR LYING TO YOUR PARENTS BY TELLING THEM YOU WERE COMING TO MY PLACE! I WENT TO YOUR HOUSE YESTERDAY AND WAS EMBARRASSED!
YOUR METHODS ARE DIRTY!
I'M SORRY...
WATTS...
W-WAIT!
THAT LIQUOR IS...
TOO STRONG

WELL, IT'S PROBABLY JUST A FRUITLESS UNREQUITED LOVE.
IF YOU HAD LEFT IT TO ME, IT'D BE A SIMPLE THING. I'M A VETERAN AT STUFF LIKE THAT! I CAN HELP!
WHY DIDN'T YOU SPEAK TO ME RIGHT AWAY ABOUT THAT?
..IDIOT.
I'LL SEARCH FOR THAT BEAUTIFUL GIRL.
BECAUSE IT'S PROOF THAT YOU'RE HUMAN.
BUT IN ANY CASE, IT'S SOMETHING TO BE HAPPY FOR!
I SHOULD KNOW RIGHT AWAY IF I ASK THE OPERA'S MANAGER.
THEY BOUGHT THAT BOX THAT DAY.
I REALLY AM CRAZY.
AH... GOOD GRIEF
Ut introitus Xerxis turpis ac foedus discessus.
AND THAT DIDN'T EVEN OCCUR TO ME.
I JUST KEPT ON WAITING FOR A FORTUITOUS MEETING AND BROODING OVER IT EVERY DAY

AH, WATTS! HOW DID IT GO?
SHE...
IT'S NO GOOD, ASLAN. GIVE IT UP.
IT'S A PITY, BUT SHE'S NOT APPRO-PRIATE FOR YOU.

I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD HAVE TO DEAL WITH A LADY.
BUT FROM NOW ON I'LL DO MY BEST TO BECOME A GENTLEMAN!
... HUH? WATTS, BUT OF COURSE!
.....
SHE'S NO LADY!
YOU BECOME A GENTLEMAN AND THEN WHAT?
YOU IDIOT...
WHA--
SHE IS...
A COCOTTE!

COCOTTE....!!
EVEN YOU OUGHT TO KNOW THAT WORD.
OH GOOD. EXPLAINING IT TO YOU WOULD BE A PROBLEM.
COCOTTE
A WOMAN WHO SELLS HER LOVE TO MEN.
SHE'S... THAT.
.....
ALL I KNOW ABOUT HER IS HOW SHE LOOKS.
EXPLAIN IT TO ME IN A WAY I CAN UNDER-STAND.
.....NO.

I FELL IN LOVE WITH HER...
WATTS
IDIOT! GIVE IT UP! LIKE SHE'D EVER BE APPROPRIATE FOR THE SON OF A RESPECTABLE FAMILY!
ASLAN...
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ELSE.
NAIVE!
HER BIRTH, OR SOCIAL STATUS, OR EVEN HER NAME...
THOSE WERE UNNECESSARY TO KNOW
AT FIRST SIGHT...
I TRUSTED HER AT FIRST SIGHT...
YES! I TRUSTED HER!
THOUGH SHE BEHAVED LIKE AN ADULT AT THE OPERA, SHE WAS STILL A YOUNG GIRL HIDING HER YAWNS.
THE ELEGANT LILY AND THE PRETTY DIANTHUS
HER FRANK BLACK EYES COMBINE BOTH AT THE SAME TIME.

I AM ABLE TO SEE HER TRUE FORM
THE GIRL WHO S LIKE THE WHEAT RUSTLING IN THE SUN...

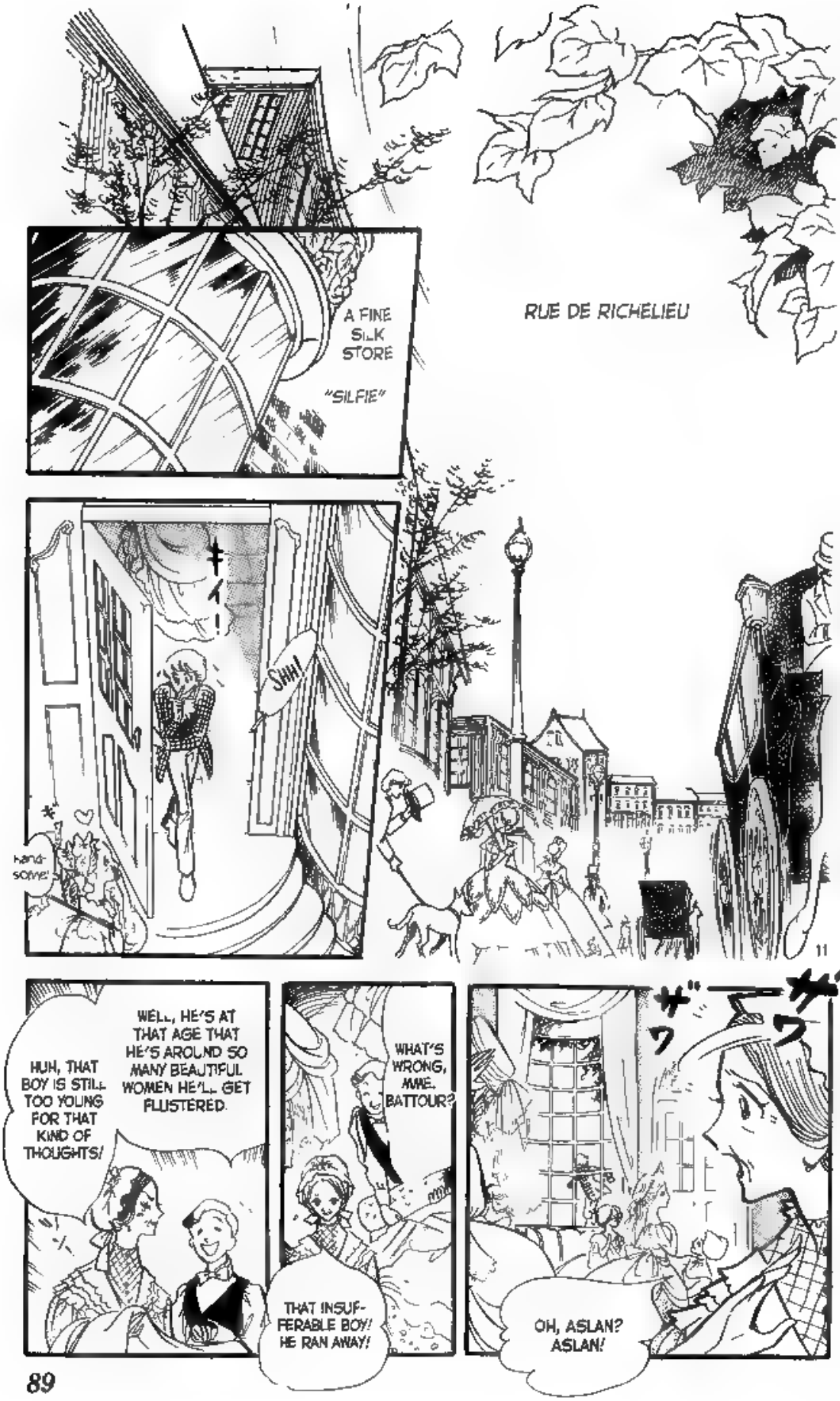
YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING!
IF ALL PROSTITUTES LOOKED LIKE WITCHES THEY WOULD NEVER GET ANY MEN!
I CAN'T THINK OF HER AS A BAD PERSON.
AT ALL.
YOU'RE JUST BEING HONEYED UP. YOU'RE THE TYPE THAT WILL JUST GET HONEYED UP AND WILL BE THROWN AWAY WITHOUT EVEN GETTING A KISS!
YOU'RE A COMPLETE SUCKER!
WHA...
HOW CAN A GREENHORN LIKE YOU GET HER INTO BED?
THEY'RE THE HIGHEST RANKING OF PROSTITUTES, MEANING THAT VERY INFLUENTIAL MEN BECOME THEIR PATRONS AND LET THEM INDULGE IN EVERY SINGLE LUXURY
ON TOP OF THAT, SHE'S A COURTESAN.

★

GASHAAAAN!
HON HON HON
IF IT COMES DOWN TO THIS, I MIGHT HAVE TO USE BRUTE FORCE...
HE WON'T EVEN LISTEN TO THE ADVICE OF HIS SENIOR?

DON'T GET UP!
IF YOU DON'T PLAN ON APOLO-GIZING, DON'T GET UP!
CRAWL TO THE DOOR LIKE THAT AND SEE YOURSELF OUT! I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU EVER AGAIN!
FOR ONCE, YOU...
CAME UP WITH AN AMAZING UNREA-SONABLE DEMAND.
LIKE A GROWN MAN COULD EVER GO TO THE ENTRANCE ON HIS HANDS AND KNEES.
ASLAN
IN THE END, I HAVE TO GIVE IN.
...MY BAD!
YOU REALLY ARE LIKE A YOUNG KID.
NOT HOLDING BACK YOUR TEARS.

I DIDN'T WANT TO LET YOU TO COME IN CONTACT WITH THAT WORLD OF OSTENTATION AND SENSUALITY.
BESIDES... NO MATTER HOW MUCH PURE-HEARTED PASSION YOU HAVE
YOU ARE NO MATCH FOR THAT POWERFUL MARQUIS.
.....!
YES, THE OLD MAN
WHO WAS WITH YOUR MAIDEN THAT OTHER TIME.
THAT'S MARQUIS GEORGES-LOUIS GARGERE AND
SHE IS HIS MISTRESS.
SHE'S CALLED PAIVA.


A FINE SILK STORE
"SILFIE"
RUE DE RICHELIEU
SHH!
hand-some!
11
HUH, THAT BOY IS STILL TOO YOUNG FOR THAT KIND OF THOUGHTS!
WELL, HE'S AT THAT AGE THAT HE'S AROUND SO MANY BEAUTIFUL WOMEN HE'LL GET FLUSTERED.
WHAT'S WRONG, MME. BATTOUR?
THAT INSUFFERABLE BOY! HE RAN AWAY!
OH, ASLAN? ASLAN!

ARE WOMEN ALWAYS THAT NOISY?
UGH, I'M BEATEN.
YOU GET TO SEE LOTS OF PEOPLE GOING ABOUT THEIR LIVES LIKE THIS.
WHEN ONE GETS AWAY FROM THE MAIN STREET
WHAT IS THIS STREET CALLED?
I WANT TO LIVE IN A NEIGHBOURHOOD LIKE THIS.
I DON'T LIKE THE TUILERIES OR RICHELIEU.
ALL THEY HAVE IS PRIM TALK AND FLATTERY.

WELL, AREN'T YOU UPPISH!
THE SHOP KEEPER SURE MUST BE AN IDIOT WHO DOESN'T KNOW A LICK ABOUT CAPITALISM, SELLING THINGS TO PEOPLE WHO CAN BUY THEM!
WE DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO ENTER THIS STORE, IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, MADAME?
GOHOHO
GOHOHO
HUMPH, WHAT IS THIS!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOUR STATUS IS, BUT THE UNREFINED LADY HERE IS YOU!
YOU
YOU
YOU!
AMALIA!
DON'T BE JEALOUS BECAUSE YOU CAN'T BUY A DRESS LIKE THAT!
DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN PULL OFF THAT LAVENDER CHIFFON!
PLEASE STOP IT ALREADY, GINA!

AMALIA AND GINA, YOU'RE SUCH LIARS.
RIGHT!
WE WERE FIGHTING FOR OUR OWN SAKE HERE.
PAIVA, DO KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT, PLEASE.
YOU KNOW I ALWAYS STICK UP FOR YOU.
OF COURSE! YOU'RE THE PRIDE OF ALL OF US COCOTTES, PAIVA!
PAIVA!!
IN A PLACE... ...LIKE THIS!
GO! COCOTTES UNITED!
OOOOO!
YES! SINCE THE ONLY THING LADIES EXCEL AT IS HAUGHTINESS, THEY PANIC AT THE FACT MEN DON'T LIKE THEM!
SO CHIC!
YOU CAN BECOME ONE OF THOSE COURTESANS THAT THE COCODETTES* COMPETE WITH AND IMITATE FOR SURE!
SUPERIOR 3-PEOPLE TEAM

★COCODETTE: A NICKNAME GIVEN TO NOBLE LADIES WHO ACTED AND DRESSED LIKE COCOTTES.

SO MANY PROSTI-TUTES...
WERE THE HECK DID THEY EVEN COME FROM?
AMAZ-NG...!
I SHOULDN'T SAY THIS ABOUT PAIVA'S PATRON, BUT I HATE THAT GUY SO MUCH!
GREAT! THAT MEANS YOU CAN RELAX!
AH!
どク
dok!
dok!
BY THE WAY, HOW IS THAT MAR-QUIS OF YOURS?
OH, HE'S ON A TRIP.
BUT YOU DON'T LOVE HIM OR ANY-THING, RIGHT?
Of course not! It's that geezer!
HE'S THE ONE WHO MADE PAIVA INTO THIS ELEGANT NICE GIRL THOUGH.
WE HATE EVEN JUST TALKING TO HIM.
キャ
キャ
HERE, THE PEOPLE GOING TO A PICNIC, FOLLOW THIS HAND-KERCHIEF!
WE SHOULD GO HAVE FUN SOME-WHERE INSTEAD!
LET'S STOP WITH THIS TALK.

M-MY LEGS... WON'T MOVE.
I can't believe it!
SHE'S COMING THIS WAY! WHAT DO I DO?!
AH!

YOU...
ARE...

MY TONGUE SEEMS TO BE TIED IN A KNOT
AT THE OPERA...
AH...
HMM..
GREETINGS, MONSIEUR.
HAVE WE MET SOMEWHERE BEFORE?
OH!
OH, WHAT'S THIS!
AN ACQUAINTANCE?
INTRODUCE HIM TO US, PAIVA!
HE LOOKS LIKE A STUDENT, THOUGH...
I'M SORRY, BUT I DON'T REMEMBER HIM.
OH, PAIVA...
HOW COULD YOU FORGET THE NAME OF SUCH A LOVELY PERSON!
BUT I DO GUESS THAT'S NORMAL WHEN YOU SEE DOZENS OF PEOPLE EVERY DAY...
AH... AH! OF COURSE IT IS!

WAH!
HUH.....
LOOK AT HIM!
BUT I HAVEN'T EVEN INTRODUCED MYSELF TO YOU YET.
ALL WE DID WAS EXCHANGE GLANCES.
WHY... WHY?
WHY DID I REMEMBER WITH JUST THAT?
DESPITE NEVER EVEN REMEMBERING THE FACES OF PEOPLE WHO USED TO BE REGULAR COSTUMERS.
BUT WHEN WE MADE EYE CONTACT JUST NOW..
SOMETHING...
A GUILTY FEELING MADE ME FEEL DEPRESSED.
YES, YES! DO INTRODUCE YOURSELF!
JUDGING FROM YOUR APPEARANCE, YOU'RE RICH, RIGHT.
OH, HOW VULGAR YOU ARE!
アーハハハ
ホホホ
チー
ERR...
I'M ASLAN BATTOUR.
TELL US YOUR NAME AND YOUR SOCIAL STATUS!
DESPITE HIS NOT EVEN SAYING ANYTHING TO ME.
WHY, I WONDER?

A MISTER VISCOUNT!
DID YOU HEAR IT!
KYAA! AMAZING!
A MISTER VISCOUNT IS TALKING TO US!
AH, ERM.
VISCOUNT
AND YOUR STATUS?
HEY, HEY!
ABOUT THAT! PAIVA SURE IS CHARMING, RIGHT?
WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT HER? WHAT MADE YOU FALL HEAD OVER HEELS?
EH... AH...
I'M AMALIA!
KYA
SOLEIL!
LUCE!
REMA!
WE'LL INTRODUCE OURSELVES TOO!
SO FORMAL!
WELL THEN, I'M DELIGHTED TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCE, LADY SOLEIL.
YOU FELL IN LOVE WITH HER AT FIRST SIGHT, WITHOUT EVEN TALKING TO HER, AFTER ALL! YOU POOR BABY!
I... LOVE YOU.
THAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO ME RIGHT NOW.
EVER SINCE I SAW YOU, I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO FORGET YOU FOR EVEN ONE MOMENT.
I...

I THINK HE BOUGHT EVEN PAVA'S HEART WITH HIS MONEY!
BRAVO! YOU'LL WANT TO SAY THAT TO THE MARQUIS!
A CONFESSION! HE'S CONFESSING!
AAAH SO BOLD!
I'M SERIOUS. ALL I WANTED WAS TO MEET YOU
SO I LOOKED EVERYWHERE FOR YOU.
PLEASE COME THIS WAY. LET'S HAVE A TALK JUST THE TWO OF US.
I CAN TELL FROM YOUR DEMEANOUR
YOU'RE A VERY WELL-MANNERED SON FROM A GOOD FAMILY.
A PERSON LIKE YOU SHOULDN'T REVEAL HIS STATUS
AND CHAT WITH PROSTITUTES IN A PLACE LIKE THIS.
APPROPRIATE COMPANY FOR AN HONEST PERSON LIKE YOU.

I'M HAPPY TO HAVE YOUR FAVOUR
BUT I CAN'T STOP THESE FEELINGS ANY MORE.
BUT I'M UNDER THE CARE OF MARQUIS GARGERE
SHE'D RECIPROCATE MY FEELINGS
IT'S NOT THAT I BELIEVED
MISS PAMA!
GOOD-BYE...
THEREFORE I CAN'T RECIPROCATE YOUR FEELINGS.
IT FOUND A PLACE TO GO
THIS PASSION
OH, LIZABETH MUST BE REALLY PROUD!
JUST HAVING A YOUNGER BROTHER THIS HANDSOME IS SOMETHING TO BE ENVIED, BUT IN ADDITION TO THAT YOU'RE ALSO QUITE INTELLIGENT.
I MUST INTRODUCE TO YOU MY NIECE AND DAUGHTER.
I'M DELIGHTED TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCE...

AND FLIRTED WITH THE GENTLE-MEN.
THEY WORE WHITE MAKE-UP, LIKE DOLLS
THE COUNT LESS GIRLS MY OLDER SISTER INTRO-DUCED TO ME
コホン
HUM...
IT'S AN HONOUR TO MEET YOU...
ASLAN!
HEY!
WHERE IS THE LADY IN THAT!
THOSE GIRLS ARE JUST LIKE MY SISTER, LAZY
ALL THEY DO IS SLEEP, EAT, PUT UP A FAÇADE AND CHAT.
SHH!
KEEP QUIET.
WHAT THE HECK, WATTS. WHAT IS--
MY TRUE COLOURS ARE SHOWING!
OOP-SIES!
HE CAN'T BE ONE OF MR. ASLAN'S FRIENDS?!
AGH, WHO IS HE?!
SO RUDE!

OVER THERE...
PAIVA!!
IT'S HER!
.....!
IDIOT, DON'T RUSH IN!
HA
you scared me
WHEN IT COMES TO STUFF LIKE THIS, YOU GOTTA DO THINGS PROPERLY!
WHY ARE YOU SUCH A BABY!

THAT GUY GRINNING BESIDE HER, THAT'S AN OLD BOY FROM MY UNIVERSITY
I'LL APPROACH HIM AND GET ON HER GOOD SIDE
AND THEN I'LL INTRODUCE YOU. HOW DOES THAT SOUND? CALM DOWN.
OOH ..
YOU SHOULD SEE HER IN THE MIDDLE OF ALL THOSE PLAIN WHITE DOLLS!
EXTINGUISHING EVERY COLOUR AROUND HER WITH HER INTENSE RADIANCE, LIKE AN ORIENTAL BEAUTY!
WHAT?!
HOW COME I DIDN'T NOTICE IT UNTIL NOW?
HER SKIN IS AN INDIAN TANNED COLOUR!

I DON'T REMEMBER YOU...
AND WHO ARE YOU?
AH, IF IT ISN'T MY SENIOR!
NOW NOW, DON'T BE A STRANGER. WE MET AT THE UNIVERSITY'S FOUNDATION PARTY.
I WAS A JUNIOR AT THE POLO CLUB.
WELL, MUCH OBLIGED. I'LL TREAT YOU TO A DRINK LATER.
OH, WAS THAT IT...
I ESCORTED MY DRUNK SENIOR HOME...
IT'S A LIE.
REALLY?
A JUNIOR FROM COLLEGE?
HUM... RHODAN, IS THAT AN ACQUAINTANCE OF YOURS?
HUM... ERR..
LEAVING THAT ASIDE! WON'T YOU INTRODUCE ME TO THAT BEAUTIFUL WOMAN!
AH, YOU BASTARD THAT WAS YOUR GOAL ALL ALONG!

OH, THE CUTE PERSON BEHIND YOU! DO COME FORWARD!
W-W-W-WATTS!
AND SHE HAS QUITE BEAUTIFUL MANNERS TOO! I, OF COURSE, ALREADY BELIEVED SHE DID.
SHE'S MUCH EASIER TO GET ON WITH THAN A HAUGHTY LADY.
THERE'S NO NEED TO BE RESERVED WITH US.
HUM... ER...
GOOD EVENING. I AM THOROUGHLY PLEASED TO MEET YOU AGAIN.
I AM FRANÇOIS WATTS
AND THIS IS MY JUNIOR BY 3 YEARS, ASLAN BATTOUR.

RHODAN WOULD YOU... GO FETCH ME SOME WINE?
Ah, P...
IT'S OUR SECOND TIME.
W-W-WHAT?!
WE'LL CHEER YOU UP!
DID YOUR FRIEND BEAT YOU TO THE PUNCH?
OH, WHAT'S THAT SULLEN FACE FOR!
IS IT BECAUSE OF ME?
BE-CAUSE, IF IT IS...
WHY ARE YOU WITH A GLOOMY FACE, MISS PAIVA?
YOU WERE SHINING LIKE THE SUN IN THERE JUST A WHILE AGO.

THAT SMILE IS DIFFERENT!
I SMILE AT ANY AND EVERY GENTLEMAN.
I'LL NEVER SHOW MY FACE TO YOU EVER AGAIN
BECAUSE I LIKE YOUR SMILE.
Ahh!
DON'T TOUCH PAIVA!
EVEN THOUGH YOUR SKIN MELTED INTO THE DARKNESS, YOUR DARK EYES STOOD OUT..
YOU LAUGHED THE FIRST TIME WE SAW EACH OTHER AT THE OPERA.
YOU BASTARD, HOW DARE YOU SPEAK LIKE THAT!

RHO-DAN!
!?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING ALL OF A SUDDEN! STOP THIS SAVAGERY!
ASLAN! WHAT'S WRONG!
IS THERE A FIGHT?!
HEY! NO WAY! THAT BLOOD. IT'S NOT FROM YOUR LUNGS, IS IT?
BLOOD FROM THE LUNGS?!
NO, IT WAS JUST A CUT ON MY MOUTH.
COME HERE!

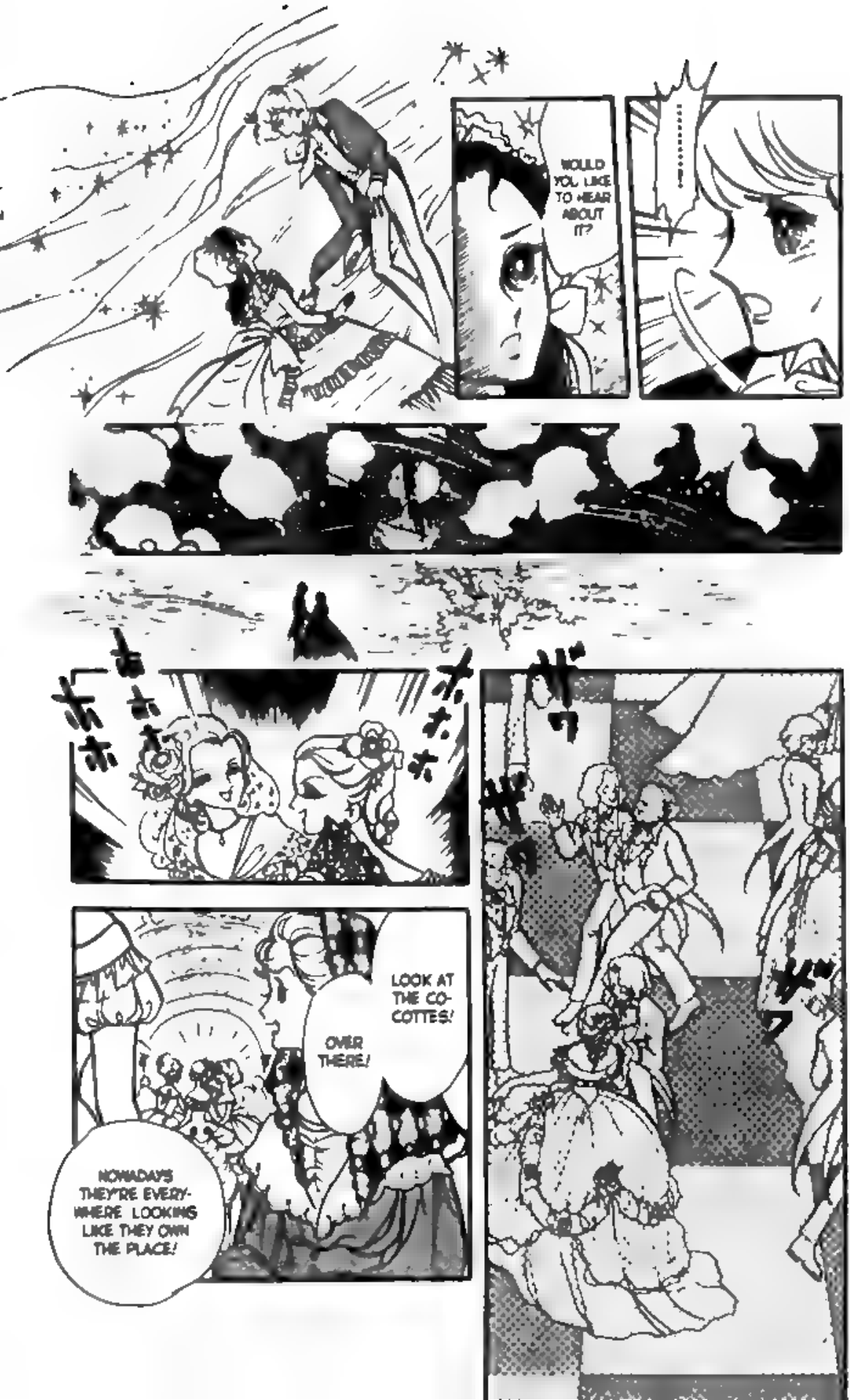
PAIVA...
DON'T MOVE.
SHOW IT TO ME!
WAIT!
AHH, NO, THIS ISN'T BLOOD FROM CONSUMPTION.
I'M SO GLAD.
YOU WERE WORRIED, PAIVA.
WHAT WERE YOU SO FEARFUL OF?
AH...
THERE'S NO REASON FOR YOU TO BE THAT WORRIED ABOUT SOMEONE YOU MET ONLY TWICE.

WHO, ME?!
HOW RUDE! TO BE SO SHAMELESS AFTER MEETING ONLY TWICE!
THAT'S ENOUGH WITH THE SHOUTING! GET SOME COCKS AND GO SORT IT OUT IN THE COCKPIT!
I'M NOT.....
W-WHAT!
AREN'T YOU BEING UNFAIR, PAVA?
I WAS PROTESTING BECAUSE THIS GUY BAD-MOUTHED YOUR SKIN!
I ALWAYS GIVE A HARSH LESSON TO GUYS WHO TALK ABOUT YOUR SKIN!
THEY'RE IGNORING US!
YOU KNOW IT, DON'T YOU? WE TALK WITHOUT RESERVE TO ANYONE.
WE GO ANYWHERE WITH ANYONE. AND HAVE A FUN TIME WITH ANYONE.
IT'S ODD FOR YOU TO BE JEALOUS, RHODAN.
THIS GUY GETS TO HAVE SPECIAL TREATMENT, IS THAT IT?

FROM HERE ON, OUR DEAL IS OFF!
YOU'RE A GOOD WOMAN TO HAVE SOME FUN WITH, AFTER ALL.
WELL, EXCUSE ME! IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS COURTING YOU TO GET INTO YOUR GOOD GRACES!
A FLOWER IN EACH HAND.
EVEN WE HAVE FREEDOM OF CHOICE! DON'T MOCK US!
HUMPH! HE WANTED TO SEDUCE A COCOTTE WITH A SHORT TEMPER LIKE THAT!
HE WAS IRRITATED BECAUSE HE DOESN'T EVEN HAVE ANY MONEY TO PAY FOR HER.
EVEN IF WE WEREN'T HERE FOR BUSINESS, WHO'D EVER WANT A GUY LIKE THAT!
SHH
SHHH
I MUST APOLOGIZE, PAIVA... ABOUT WHAT I SAID ABOUT YOUR SKIN...
THAT'S ALRIGHT... IT'S HARD TO TELL WHETHER YOU WERE DEPRECIATING OR PRAISING IT.
DON'T BE A BOORISH GUY WHO PLAYS AROUND WITH EVERYONE.
DO YOUR BEST ♡
NI

I'M PROUD OF IT.
BUT IT'S THE FIRST TIME ANYONE PRAISES ME LIKE THAT WHEN THEY SEE ME FOR THE FIRST TIME.
I WAS JUST SURPRISED...
.....
WELL, WHAT DO OTHER PEOPLE SAY?
HUH?
YOU REALLY...
DON'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING, DO YOU?
DO YOU REALLY WANT TO ASK WHAT KIND OF COMPLIMENTS MEN PAY TO -US-?

YOU GOT IT? YOU SHOULDN'T ASK WOMEN THINGS THAT THEY DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT.
AH, NO!
NO! THAT'S ALRIGHT... IF YOU DON'T WANT TO TELL ME, I'LL...
OH...
OH!
PLEASE DON'T SMILE.
PAIVA!
PLEASE DON'T SMILE.
PAIVA.
IT'S LEAVING THE WORLD TOO FAST.
I HAD NO TIME TO MEMORIZE ANYTHING.
.....
AH, THAT'S QUITE ALRIGHT. LET'S TALK ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE.
WE WERE TALKING ABOUT MY SKIN COLOUR.
I'M SORRY. SAY, WHAT WERE WE TALKING ABOUT?
I GOT FRIGHTENED BECAUSE YOU WERE SMILING SO MUCH.
WHAT'S WRONG?


WOULD YOU LIKE TO HEAR ABOUT IT?
.....
おおお
ホホホ
LOOK AT THE CO-COTTES!
OVER THERE!
NOWADAYS THEY'RE EVERY-WHERE LOOKING LIKE THEY OWN THE PLACE!

COCOTTES ARE FULL OF LIFE.
THEY MIGHT NOT KNOW HOW TO BE REFINED
YOU'RE BLIND TO YOUR OWN EMPTY
OH, LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT IT.
I WONDER WHAT THE HECK IS SO GOOD ABOUT THEM
GO FOR THEM!
BUT IN GENERAL THEY KNOW HOW TO HOLD A CONVERSATION AND ARE MORE THAN AWARE OF THEIR CHARM.
AND THEY MIGHT BE DISSOLUTE
HEY, HEY, DID YOU HEAR?
ABOUT THE SON OF VISCOUNT BATTOUR!
I... I RECOGNIZE HE'S A TOTAL BABY BUT...
HE'S QUITE HANDSOME! ♡♡
HAD TOP GRADES TOO. ♡
HE FINISHED THE LYCÉE ONE YEAR AHEAD OF EVERYBODY.
KI...
OH, YES, ASLAN!
A CUTE K.D, ISN'T HE?
THESE ARE LADIES?
HOW VULGAR!
AH, SO CUTE!
WHAT IF SOMEONE GAVE HIM A LITTLE POKE?
HE LOOKS LIKE HE'D GET SCARED AND CRY!
AH, IN ANY CASE, HE'S FROM A GOOD FAMILY.

THE TOPIC MIGHT HAVE CHANGED, BUT THEIR VULGARITY DID NOT!
AH, LIKE THIS AND THAT.
HOW WAS THE OPERA THIS WEEK?
LET'S CHANGE THE SUBJECT.
I HEARD M. M'S SON AND MME. L'S DAUGHTER ARE DATING...
Gasp!
ATCHOO!
AH, NO.
I WAS THINKING I OUGHT TO INTRODUCE HIM TO M. S'S DAUGHTER.
DON'T YOU KNOW WHERE ASLAN IS?
CLEARLY WHAT THEY EXCEL AT IS NOT THEIR UPBRINGING!
BUNCH OF CLASSLESS AIRHEADS!
OH, MONSIEUR WATTS
GOOD EVENING!
UGH.....
BY THE WAY, HAVE YOU HEARD?
SOME YOUNG MEN WHO WERE WITH THE COCOTTES GOT INTO A FIGHT AND RAISED A RUCKUS..
OH GREAT! IF THIS GETS OUT, HE'LL BE DISINHERITED.
DO YOU KNOW WHO THEY WERE?
RUMOUR HAS IT THAT THEY WERE TRYING TO SEDUCE A
CERTAIN FAMOUS COURTESAN!

ASLAN, HERE!
NO GOOD
ASLAN!
IF YOU CAN ANSWER MY QUESTION, I'LL LET YOU GO UP ONE STEP.
IF YOU DON'T CLOSE YOUR EYES...!
WHAT'S THE COLOUR OF MY SKIN?
IT'S THE COLOUR OF THE PASSION OF A PROUD GYPSY.
INDEED. THE COCOTTES TINT THEIR SKIN TO IMITATE IT AND ATTRACT THE MEN.

AS IF THIS WERE A BEAUTIFUL THING.. SOMETHING ONLY I HAD. LIKE YOU WERE SEEING AN ARABIAN PRINCESS.
YES, ASLAN...
THAT'S HOW YOU SAID IT.

IT'S YOUR NATURAL BEAUTY...
BUT MINE IS DIFFERENT. WHY DO I HAVE THIS COLOUR?

PAIVA...

NOT TOO STRO-NG...
OH... HOW'S YOUR LIQUOR?
hic
AH, BILLIARDS! A GEN-TLEMAN'S GAME.
HEY, ISN'T THAT PAPA?
SHE BROUGHT A BABY WITH HER.
WAS SHE INTO YOUNGER GUYS?!
PFT
HUH?
LET'S GO!
I DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY.
IF YOU DON'T LIKE BIL..ARDS, HOW ABOUT PLAYING CARDS?

HOW UNFORTUNATE!
MAYBE IT'S MUTUAL LOVE!
HOHO!
THERE'S SOME KIND OF SUSPICIOUS MOOD BETWEEN THEM.
IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE SHE'S WITH HIM FOR BUSINESS.
I'M SORRY, PAIVA. I'VE BEEN ONTO YOU THIS WHOLE TIME.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF GAME YOU'RE PLAYING
BUT I THINK I CAN DO IT TOO.
HEY, ASLAN... YOU'RE YOU.
JUST LIKE I AM ME.
I CAN HEAR MUSIC COMING FROM SOMEWHERE.
ARE YOU COLD? YOU'RE SHAKING...
IT'S BECAUSE WE'VE BEEN BY THE RIVER FOR TOO LONG
EVEN IF IT'S WARM THERE, I DON'T WANT TO BE IN A PLACE FULL OF PEOPLE.
LET'S WALK A BIT MORE...

HEY, IT IS SAID THAT WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE A FIRE IN A COLD DAY YOU CAN DANCE TO GET WARM.
LET'S DANCE! I'LL SHOW YOU HOW!
OH, I CAN DANCE!
IS IT A MINUET?
OR A RONDO?
A GYPSY DANCE!
YOU CAN'T GET WARM WITH A MINUET!
HERE, RAISE YOUR ARMS!
PAIVA!
AH, NO GOOD...
I CAN'T DANCE WITH THIS DRESS.
LA SE NE
LA SEINE
WHEREVER YOU FLOW, SE NE
YOU ARE ALREADY USED TO SADNESS
BECAUSE YOU'VE SEEN QUITE A LOT OF IT

BUT YOU'RE NOT USED TO THE GRIEF...
I JUST REMEMBERED A SILLY OLD SONG.
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU WERE CRYING...
... OF A SLIVER OF TENDERNESS
MY MOTHER, WHO DIED OF TUBERCULOSIS.
SHE HAD A POOR LIFE BUT SHE WAS HAPPY...
AT THE AGE OF 12....I BADE FAREWELL TO MY MOTHER.
HAVING MARRIED A GYPSY WITH DARK CURLY HAIR, SHORTLY AFTER THEY WERE SEPARATED BY DEATH... I NEVER SAW MY FATHER'S FACE.
WHITE SKIN AND BLUE EYES, SHE HAILED FROM SCANDINAVIA.
EVERY TIME I THINK ABOUT HER
I FEEL LIKE I CAN LOOK FORWARD TO ANOTHER DAY.
THOUGH I KNOW SHE WON'T COME BACK...
I CAME TO PARIS AND BECAME THE MAID OF AN OLD COCOTTE AT THE AGE OF 14.
THAT FASTIDIOUS OLD WOMAN WAS THE ONE WHO TRAINED ME.
SHE DIED ALREADY.
HEY... I OFTEN THINK I'D LIKE THE MOMENT TO LAST FOREVER.
I'M THINKING THAT NOW, TOO.

BUT THAT'S ABSOLUTELY IMPOSSIBLE, ISN'T IT?
SO I ALWAYS GET SAD WHEN I WISH FOR THAT.
SEEING THE HARBOUR AT DAWN ALWAYS MAKES ME THINK THAT.
IT MAKES IT LOOK LIKE THE DAY WAS VERY PEACEFUL...
AND I FEEL LIKE LIVING ANOTHER DAY.
BUT WHEN THE SUN RISES I'M ALWAYS BROUGHT BACK TO REALITY.
I LOVE YOU, PAIVA.
EVEN IF YOU HATED ME
MY LOVE FOR YOU IS REAL.

BECAUSE YOU'VE SEEN ALOT A... OF D...
YOU ARE ALREADY USED TO SADNESS
BUT YOU'RE NOT USED TO THE GRIEF
OF A SLIVER OF TENDER-NESS

1/7 page

KEIKO TAN'S CORNER

AH, MR WATTS!
HEY, GOOD MORNING! WORKING HARD
MISS LIDELLE! ♡
WAA~~~~!
OH!
WHAT IS WRONG, LIDELLE!
I DON'T... I DON'T GET WHY YOU'RE CRYING ALL OF A SUDDEN!
IS IT ABOUT ASLAN?
A SIDE BENEFIT!
HE'S NOWHERE TO BE SEEN! HE DIDN'T COME HOME YESTERDAY NIGHT! I WAS UP UNTIL MORNING WAITING FOR HIM!
WHERE WAS HE GOING! WHERE DID YOU TWO PART! UP TO WHERE WERE YOU TWO TOGETHER!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!! WELL, FROM THAT POINT ON, HE...
N-NO WAY.... THAT GUY.... WITH PAIVA....?!
THAT IDIOT!
That late bloomer did..
So easily..

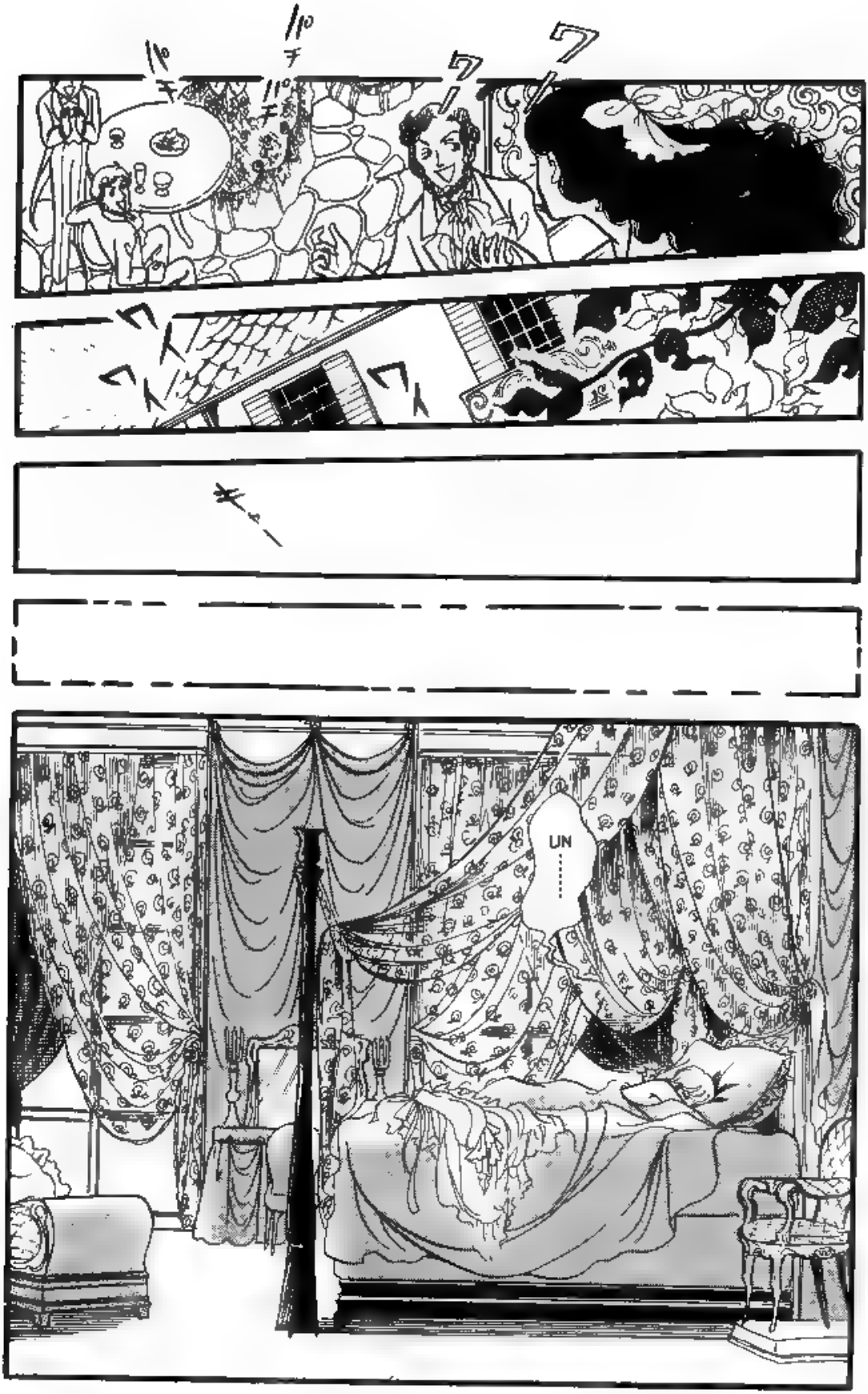
YES! IF YOU THINK I'M DECEIVING YOU, COME CHECK!
REALLY ?
EVERYONE CAME COME? THAT'S BULL!
YOU CAN HANG AROUND!
EVEN PEOPLE WHO AREN'T EVEN PASSING ACQUAINTANCES ARE WELCOME IN PAIVA'S SUNDAY MORNING PARTIES.

AS A RESULT OF THAT WAY OF SEPARATING THE WHEAT FROM THE CHAFF
A WELL-MADE PLAN!
DOES THAT MEAN THE PEOPLE WHO COME HERE ARE ONLY THE LIBERTINES WHO RENEGED ON GOD?
BUT IN EXCHANGE YOU HAVE TO GIVE UP THE JOY OF MEETING
VIRGIN MARY AT THE CHAPEL.
GOOD MORNING, ELLA.
YOU BUMS! GO TAKE A LONG WALK OFF A SHORT PIER!
HUMPH!
WELCOME, GOOD MORNING, EVERYBODY.
I'M SORRY, I OVERSLEPT.
NO, OUR PRINCESS!
THAT'S UNUSUAL, MISS PROSTITUTE.
OH, PAIVA!! WONDERFUL!
MY LITTLE BIRD!

HE STOLE A MARCH ON US! THAT WEASEL!
IT MOVES ME SO MUCH, THIS BLACK HAIR OF YOURS.
BEEING IT CASCADING DOWN YOUR NAPE IS INDEED SUPREME HAPPINESS.
PAIVA, WE EXIST TOO, YOU KNOW!
MY MY, WHAT'S UP WITH YOU GUYS?
ONCE PAIVA COMES OUT YOU FORGET ALL ABOUT US!
WHAT S IT, ELLA?
DON'T YOU "WHAT IS IT" ME. WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO ABOUT THAT KID?
KID ? AH, ASLAN? OH, YOU'RE SO CRUEL, AHA-HAHAH
HO HO
IF HE ISN'T A KID
THEN WHAT'S WITH HIM JUST PASSING OUT THE MOMENT HE ARRIVES TO A COCOTTE'S HOUSE?

.....
I THOUGHT EVERY GUY WHO CAME CLOSE TO YOU WAS JUST LOOKING FOR "ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE NIGHT"!
A KNIGHT, HUH!
HE JUST ACTED AS MY KNIGHT FOR THE NIGHT.
IT SEEMED TO ME WE COULD BECOME ACTUAL FRIENDS.
HE'S AROUND MY AGE.
YOU HAVE THAT OBSTINATE LOOK, CHARACTERISTIC OF A GYPSY!
IT'S A GOOD THING THAT YOU'RE THE MARQUIS' DOLL AND CAN'T DO AS YOU PLEASE.
IN THE END
BUT YOU THINK THE MARQUIS WILL HATE A BOY LIKE HIM
FOR SURE.
TELL ME ABOUT IT!

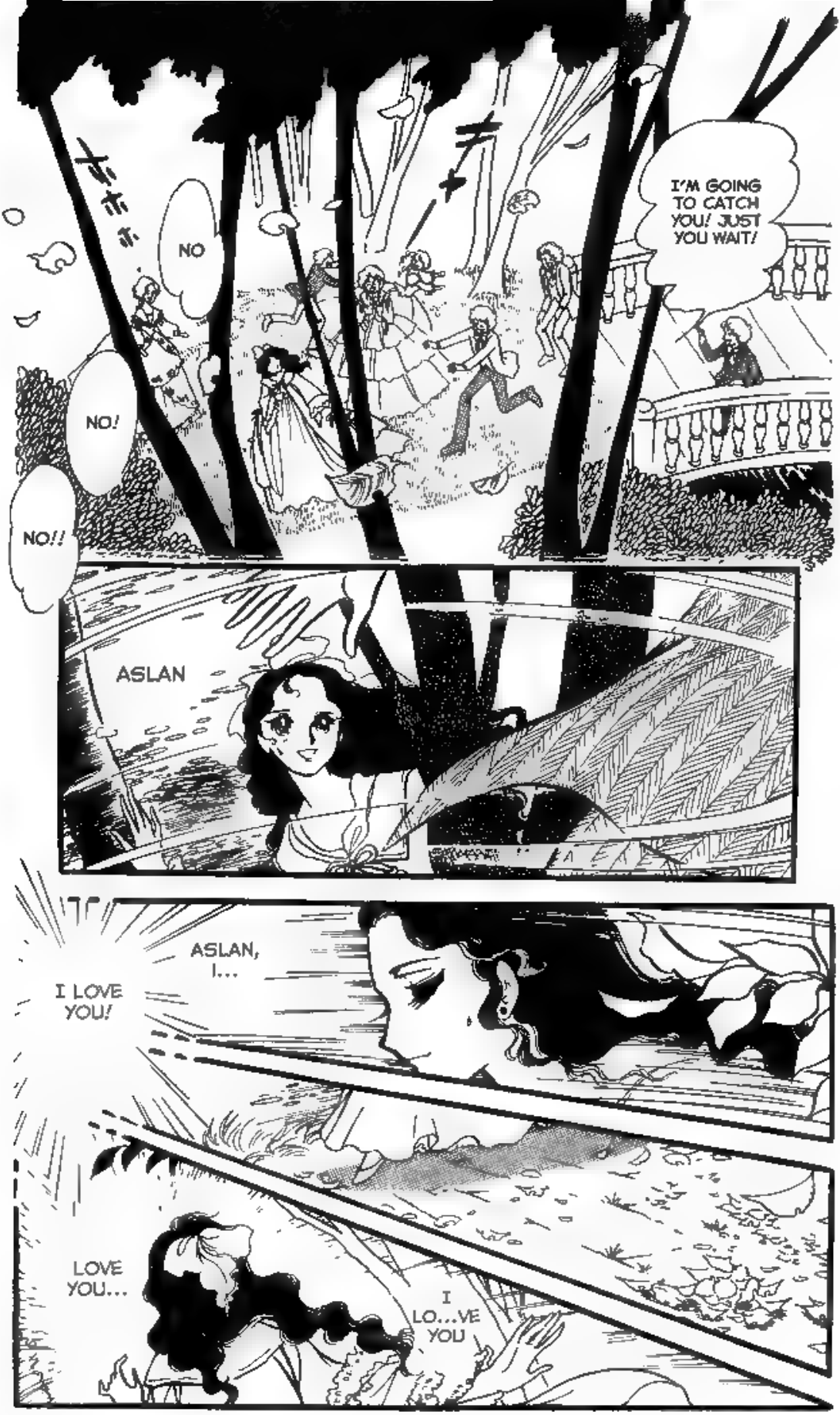
ONCE HE WAKES UP, DO I THROW HIM OUT BEFORE HE CAN SEE THE MERRYMAKING IN THE GARDEN?
AND WHAT ABOUT THAT BONBON?
HE'S A WELL-OFF PERSON WHO HAS GIVEN YOU A BETTER LIFE.
A COCOTTE MUSTN'T DISPLEASE HER LIFELONG PATRON.
チン
THANK YOU, ELLA.
BUT PLEASE LET HIM DO AS HE SEES FIT.
PAIVA!
WHAT IS THE HOST OF THE PARTY DOING!
COME QUICKLY, THE DAYS ARE SHORT IN AUTUMN!


UN

AH ...!
... WHERE AM I?
A NICE SMELL.
PAIVA!!
I...!
A GOWN?! WHOSE... WHY AM I...
WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY?
I ESCORTED PAIVA HOME AT DAWN...
AND WHEN I WAS ABOUT TO GO BACK...
SEE YOU.
OR MAYBE I COULDN'T HANDLE MY NERVOUSNESS...
WAS THE LIQUOR I DRANK TO STAVE OFF THE COLD TOO STRONG?
I JUST PASSED OUT THERE AND THEN.
WE CAN PUT HIM IN MY BED!
SO SUDDENLY! THE GUEST ROOM ISN'T EVEN PREPARED!
HOW SHAMEFUL!!

... WHILE WE SLEPT.
I SURELY DID NOT DO ANY-THING TO HER
しーん
BUT DID SHE... SLEEP HERE TOO?!
SHE SLEPT... BY... MY SIDE.
AHAHAHA
KYA!!
LOOK, I CAUGHT YOU!
GIVE ME A REWARD!
PAIVA, DON'T BE CARELESS! DON'T GET CAUGHT SO EASILY!

COUNT TO 10!
I'LL GIVE ONE OF MY FINGERS TO WHOMEVER CATCHES ME.
WELL
ARE YOU READY? I'LL RUN FOR REAL THIS TIME.
OH, THAT'S SO WONDERFUL!
I WISH I HAD ANOTHER LEG!
ASLAN, I'M GOING TO LIE NEXT TO YOU
DON'T WAKE UP.
ONE
TWO
THREE
FOUR
FIVE
DON'T WAKE UP.
YES, KEEP ON SLEEPING.
NGH
SIX
SEVEN
ASLAN...
EIGHT

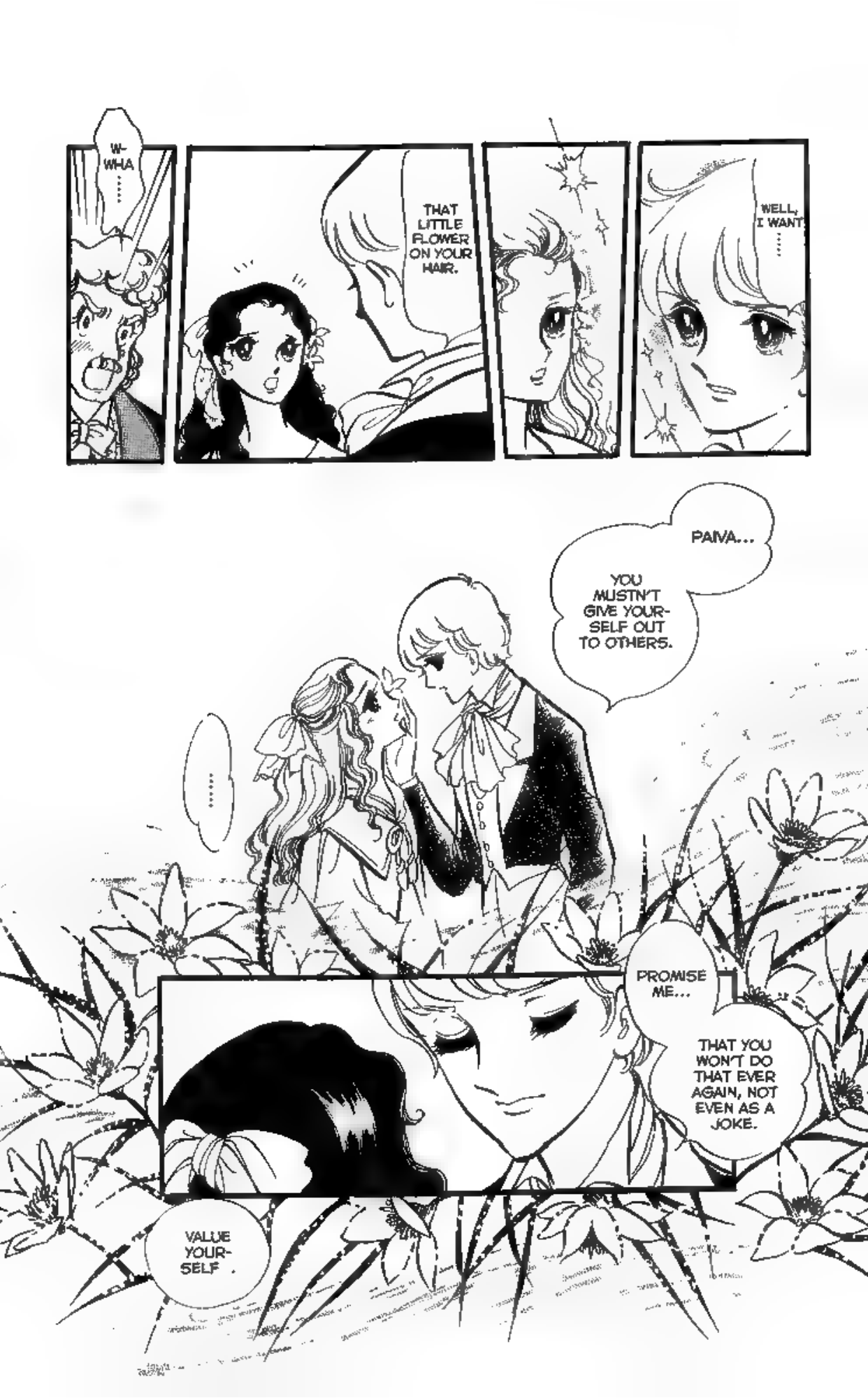

NO
NO!
NO!!
I'M GOING TO CATCH YOU! JUST YOU WAIT!
ASLAN
ASLAN, I...
I LOVE YOU!
LOVE YOU...
I LO...VE YOU

UH UHM
C-CALM DOWN...
YOU NEED MAD COUR-AGE FOR THIS.
SHE'S RUNNING AROUND THE GARDEN WITH SOME SCOUNDRELS. SHE'LL BE BACK SOON.
WHERE IS MLLE. P-PAIVA?
A SHOWY SHAWL, JUST ONE GLOVE.
A CANE, A HAT, A FEATHER FAN
ALL OF A COCOTTE'S POSSES-SIONS ARE SOMEWHAT FOR-LORN.
THE DAILY ANXIETY...
AND CHEERFUL NESS OF DESPERA-TION...

THAT'S RIGHT TODAY IS THE DAY OF MASS.
LOOK, THEY'VE BEEN LIKE THAT SINCE SUNDAY MORNING.
THEY ARE BEYOND RE-DEMP-TION!
THIS HAPPENS EVERY WEEK. THEY'RE DAMNED, BOTH THE GUYS WHO ARE INVITED AND THE ONES WHO COME BY THEMSELVES!
GO HOME QUICKLY AND REPENT! IT'S FUTILE TO CHASE AFTER A COCOTTE!
I DON'T BLAME YOU, YOU'RE STILL JUST AN INNO-CENT KID.
I NEVER MISSED IT BEFORE!
IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW WELL YOU TREATED THEM
TRUE TO THEIR REPU-TATION, CO-COTTES GO ALONG WITH ANYBODY.
GO HOME, QUICK!!
A SIN?
CAUGHT YOU, PAIVA!
COMMITING
PAIVA!
AM I...

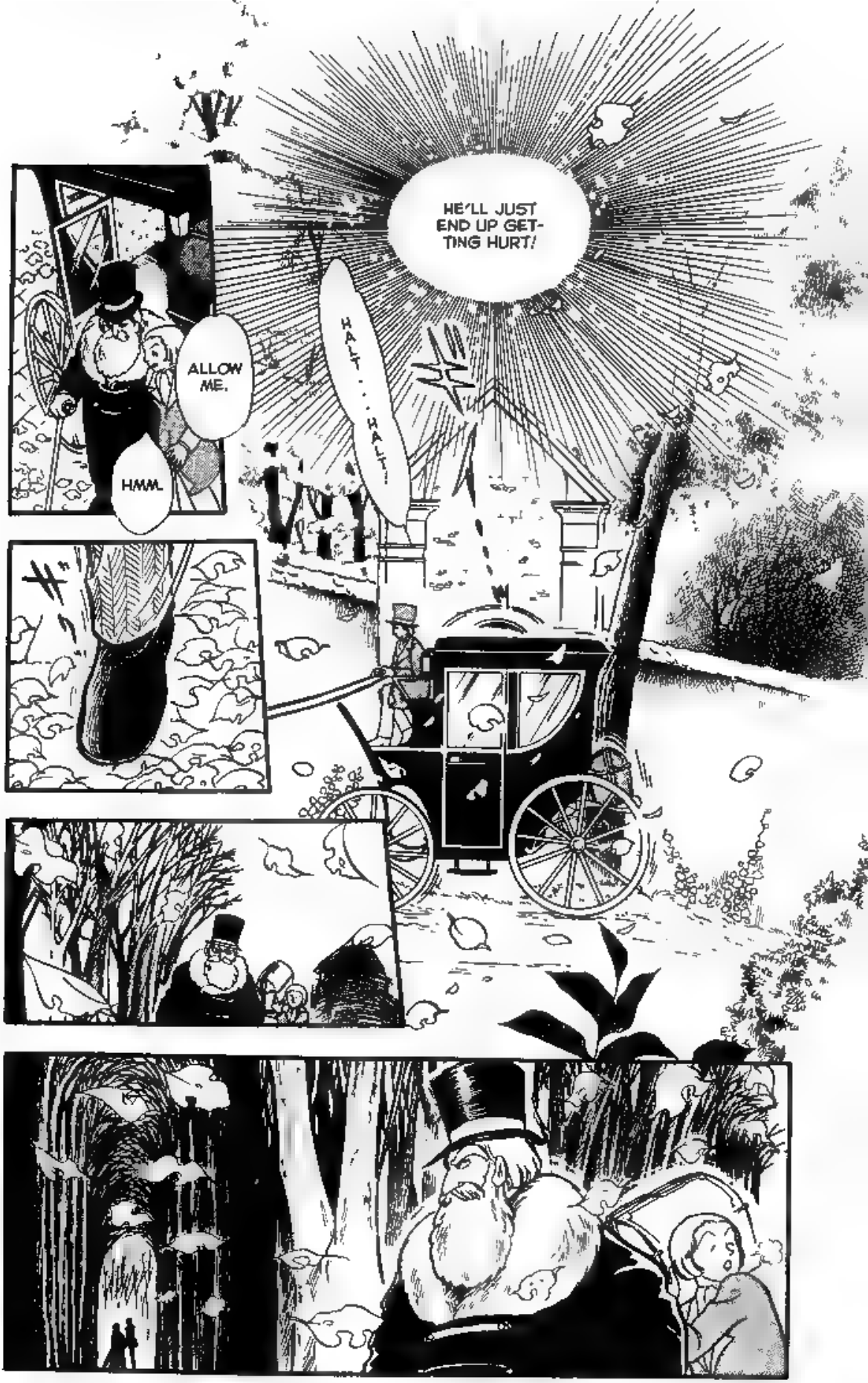
ASLAN!
SHE SEEKS MY ARMS
WITH HER OPEN HANDS.
ASLAN! ASLAN!!
AS LONG AS YOU SEEK THEM, I WILL EXTEND MY ARMS.
PLEASE BE CARE-FUL!
ARE YOU HURT?

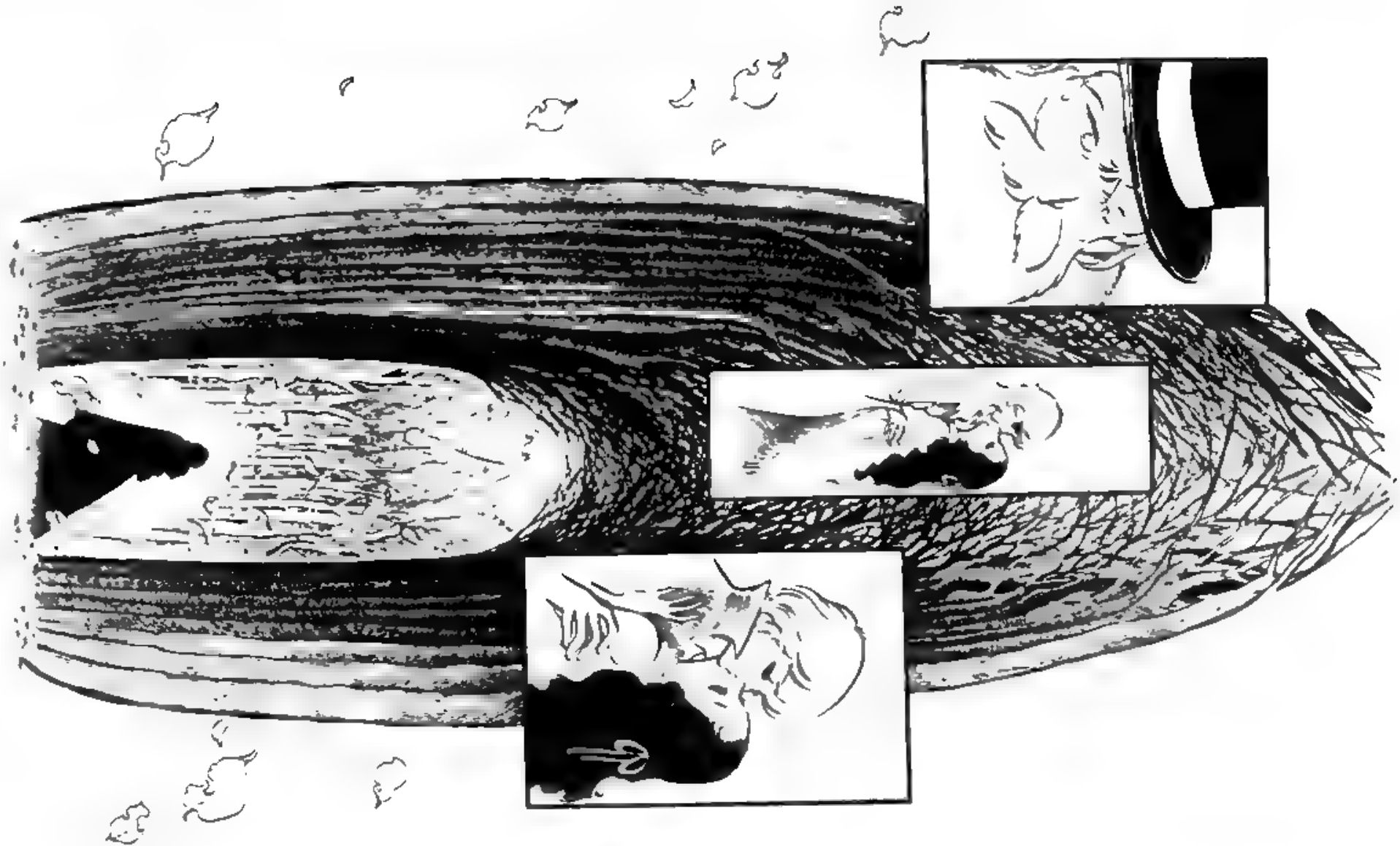
WHO THE HECK ARE YOU?!
YOU CAN JOIN US, BUT DON'T GET IN THE WAY OF OUR GAME!
ASLAN ?!
EVEN IF THEY ARE WEAK
WELL THEN, IT'S TIME FOR ME TO GIVE OUT THE RE-WARDS.
WHAT PART OF ME DO YOU WANT?
YOUR PURE HAND!
YOUR CUTE ROUND EYES!
YOUR LIPS!
YOUR SLEN-DER PINKY!
YOUR FOOT!
AND YOU, ASLAN?
.....


W-WHA……
THAT LITTLE FLOWER ON YOUR HAIR.
WELL, I WANT……
PAIVA…
YOU MUSTN'T GIVE YOURSELF OUT TO OTHERS.
……
PROMISE ME…
THAT YOU WON'T DO THAT EVER AGAIN, NOT EVEN AS A JOKE.
VALUE YOURSELF.

AS-
LAN……

DID HE REALLY SPEND THE NIGHT AT A COCOTTE'S PLACE!
DID HE REALLY TELL YOU THAT?!
BARON ALBINÉ, WHO USED TO GO TO THAT WOMAN'S PLACE.
whisper whisper
I CAN'T!
DO HIS PARENTS KNOW?
OUTRAGEOUS!
THAT'S THE PROBLEM IN LETTING SOMEONE SO YOUNG BE INDEPENDENT
HUMPH, HE WAS SEDUCED!
NO ONE CAN HAVE HER.
AND EVEN IF HE WEREN'T
PAIVA HAS THAT BIG PATRON, MARQUIS GARGERE


HE'LL JUST END UP GETTING HURT!
HALT... HALT!
ALLOW ME.
HMM.



HMPH, A NEW FACE.
I AM GEORGES-LOUIS GARGERE.
PLEASED TO MEET YOU...
I AM ASLAN BATTOUR.
I HAVE HEARD QUITE A LOT ABOUT YOU.

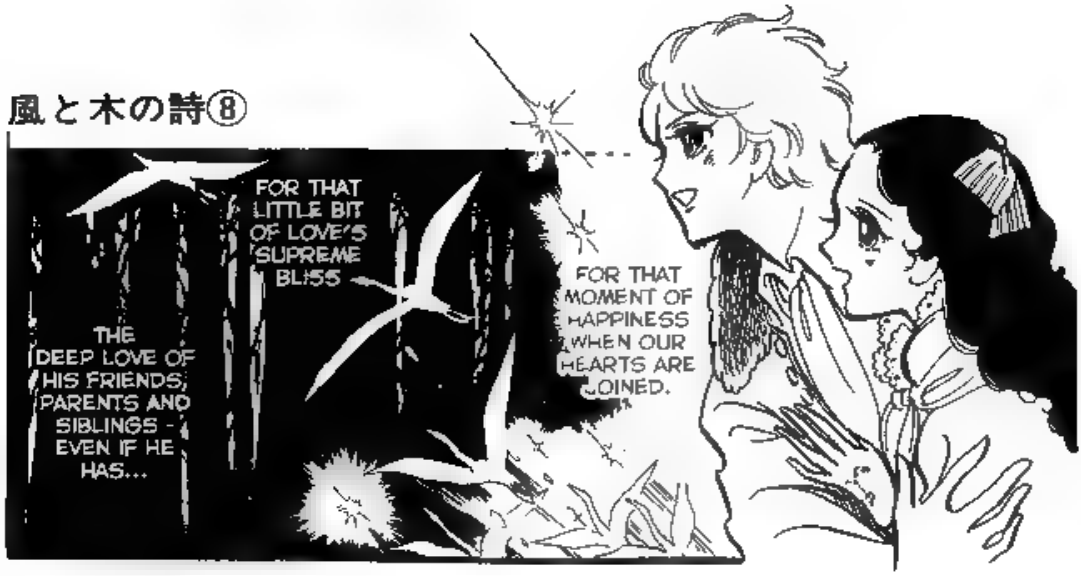
WHAT'S WITH YOU TWO?
WOULD YOU STOP WITH THE WEIRD FACES.
IN ANY CASE, I WAS ABLE TO FIGURE OUT ONE THING. THE MARQUIS IS NOT A STUBBORN FOOL.
YOU..
YOU JUST HANDED PAIVA TO HIM WITH A NOD AND A YES SIR?
EH. . BUT THE MARQUIS IS HER GUARDIAN. IT'S NO. .
WHY DIDN'T YOU SNATCH HER UP RIGHT THERE AND RAN AWAY! IDIOT!
THIS IS WHY YOU ARE A BABY!!
PAIVA IS IN A DIFFICULT POSITION RIGHT NOW!
COULD I EVER DO SOMETHING THAT PREPOSTEROUS!
HUH...

A PUZZLE, IS IT.
THE QUESTIONS RACKING YOUR BRAIN YOU MUST BE QUITE LIKE THAT
HOW YOU FOOLED ME AND EXCHANGED VOWS OF LOVE WITH THAT GREENHORN
IS THAT IT, MY CUTE PRIN-CESS?

THERE.
.....
NO, THAT'S THERE.
AND THIS IS HERE
WHAT TO DO. BUT IF ONE CALMS DOWN AND THINKS ABOUT IT, IT'S OF NO IMPORTANCE...
YOU'RE QUITE FOND OF THAT LAD, YES?
YOU THINK THAT TOO, RIGHT?
THAT'S WONDERFUL.
BUT HIS LOSING HEART AND LEAVING, LIKE ALL THE OTHERS, IS THE MOST THAT CAN HAPPEN.

YOU'RE STILL YOUNG...
IT'S COMPLETELY NORMAL FOR YOU TO GO AND HAVE AFFAIRS BEHIND MY BACK.
THAT'S WHY...
I WON'T BE SURPRISED IF YOU INTRODUCE ME TO MANY YOUNG MEN.
HOW-EVER...
JUST DON'T DO ANYTHING THAT WILL SHAME ME.
KEEP THINGS SILENT AND OUT OF SIGHT, UN-DERSTOOD?
YES.
I'M GOING TO BED EARLY, THE NIGHT GROWS COLD.

UP UNTIL THIS POINT THEY WERE ALL SERIOUS
AND I EVEN WAITED FOR THEM
FU
UP UNTIL THIS POINT WITH ALL THE YOUNG MEN THAT FELL IN LOVE WITH ME
YES, IT'S BEEN THE SAME AS ALWAYS
.....
I AM MARQUIS GEORGES-LOUIS GARGERE'S MISTRESS.
WILL HE COME?
EVEN IF WE CAN GET OVER THAT WALL

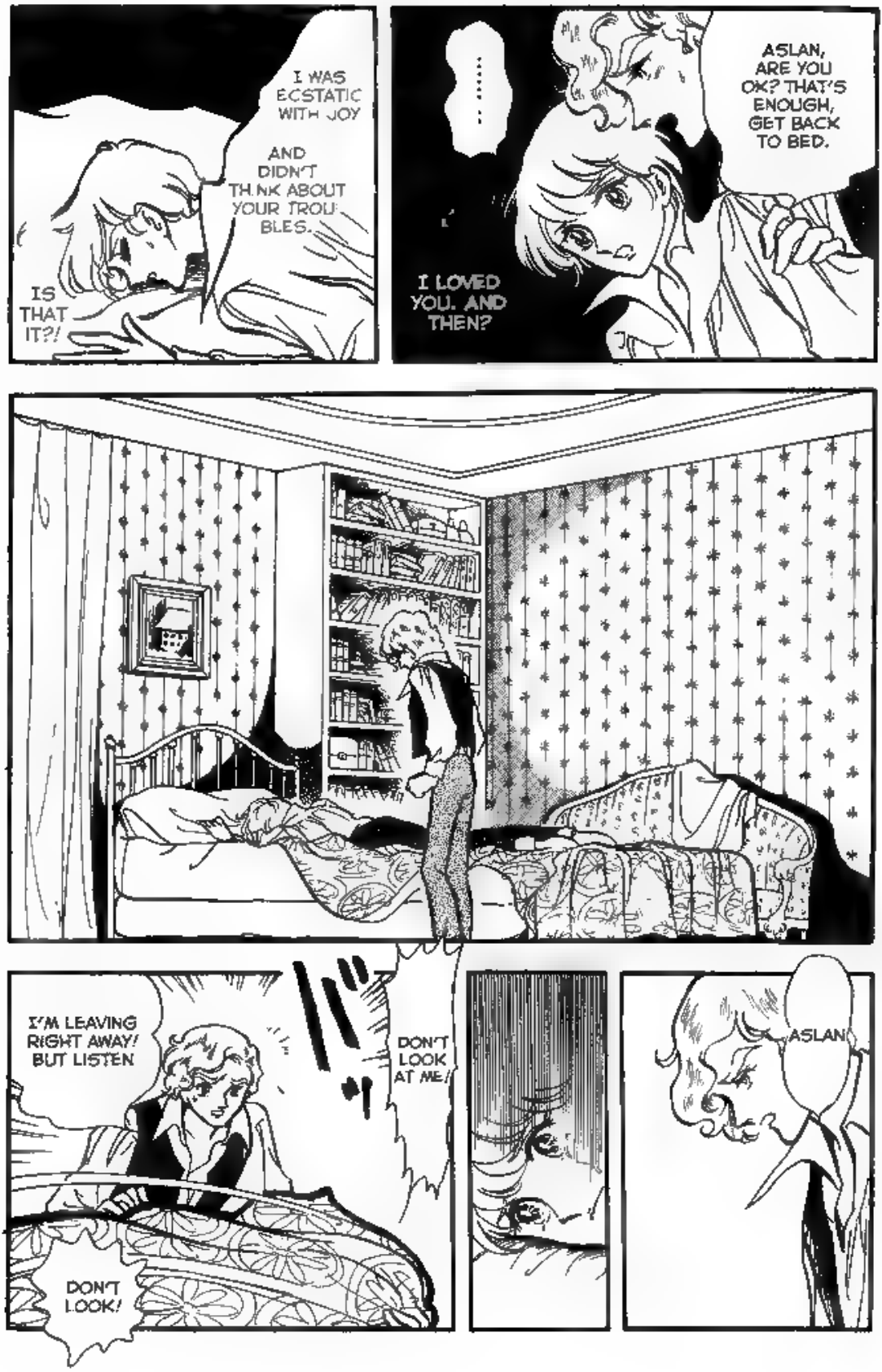

FOR THAT LITTLE BIT OF LOVE'S SUPREME BLISS
THE DEEP LOVE OF HIS FRIENDS, PARENTS AND SIBLINGS - EVEN IF HE HAS...
FOR THAT MOMENT OF HAPPINESS WHEN OUR HEARTS ARE JOINED.

TO BETRAY THAT?

AH, I FEEL NAUSEOUS...
I CAN'T MOVE
RING-ING IN MY HEAD
WHAT'S THIS SOUND
ASLAN!
GET UP, WILL YOU! ASLAN!!
ACK!
WHO'S SHAKING ME
IT HURTS
STOP...
IT WAS QUITE ROWDY, WASN'T IT LOUIS!
YOU'RE IN MY ROOM
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU FORGOT EVE-RYTHING ABOUT LAST NIGHT
WATTS.....
HMPH
YOU'RE FINALLY UP
カシャン!

SOMETHING HAPPENED LAST NIGHT... I CAN'T REMEMBER
WHAT HAPPENED?
GET READY FOR THE HEADACHE AND THE NAUSEA, THERE'S NO WAY OF HELPING THAT KIND OF HEAVY DRINKING.
WAIT, LOUIS-RENÉ!
WAIT!
AH.
WELL, WATTS, I'M OFF. SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE.
SAY IT AGAIN!
YESTERDAY... YOU SAID... YOU SAID SOMETHING!
ALL THAT REMAINS IS AN INTENSE EMOTION.
I DON'T. I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING!
ASLAN...
NON!
THAT'S ENOUGH. I WON'T GET ANY MORE INVOLVED. I'M OUT.

!!
THAT'S WHY I CALLED YOU A PAMPERED BRAT.
DROP IT ALREADY, LOUIS-RENÉ.
IDIOT! DON'T ACT WITHOUT THINKING!
.....
ASLAN
UCK!
NO, I'M NOT DROPPING IT. HE, WHO GREW UP NEVER FACING ANY TROUBLES, NEEDS THIS.
SINCE HE WAS BLESSED WITH A GOOD ENVIRONMENT GROWING UP
YOU TOO KNOW THIS VERY WELL.
HE'S TOO NAIVE AND THINKS THE WORLD IS LIKE THAT TOO.
PAIVA
PAIVA
WHAT HAVE I DONE TO YOU?
TOLD ME TO FORGET ABOUT HER
MY TWO GOOD FRIENDS
AH, YES I REMEMBER NOW
BUT LET ME OFF THE HOOK THIS TIME, I HAVE AN ACCOMPANIMENT EXAM TODAY.
I'M NOT HOLDING BACK NEXT TIME

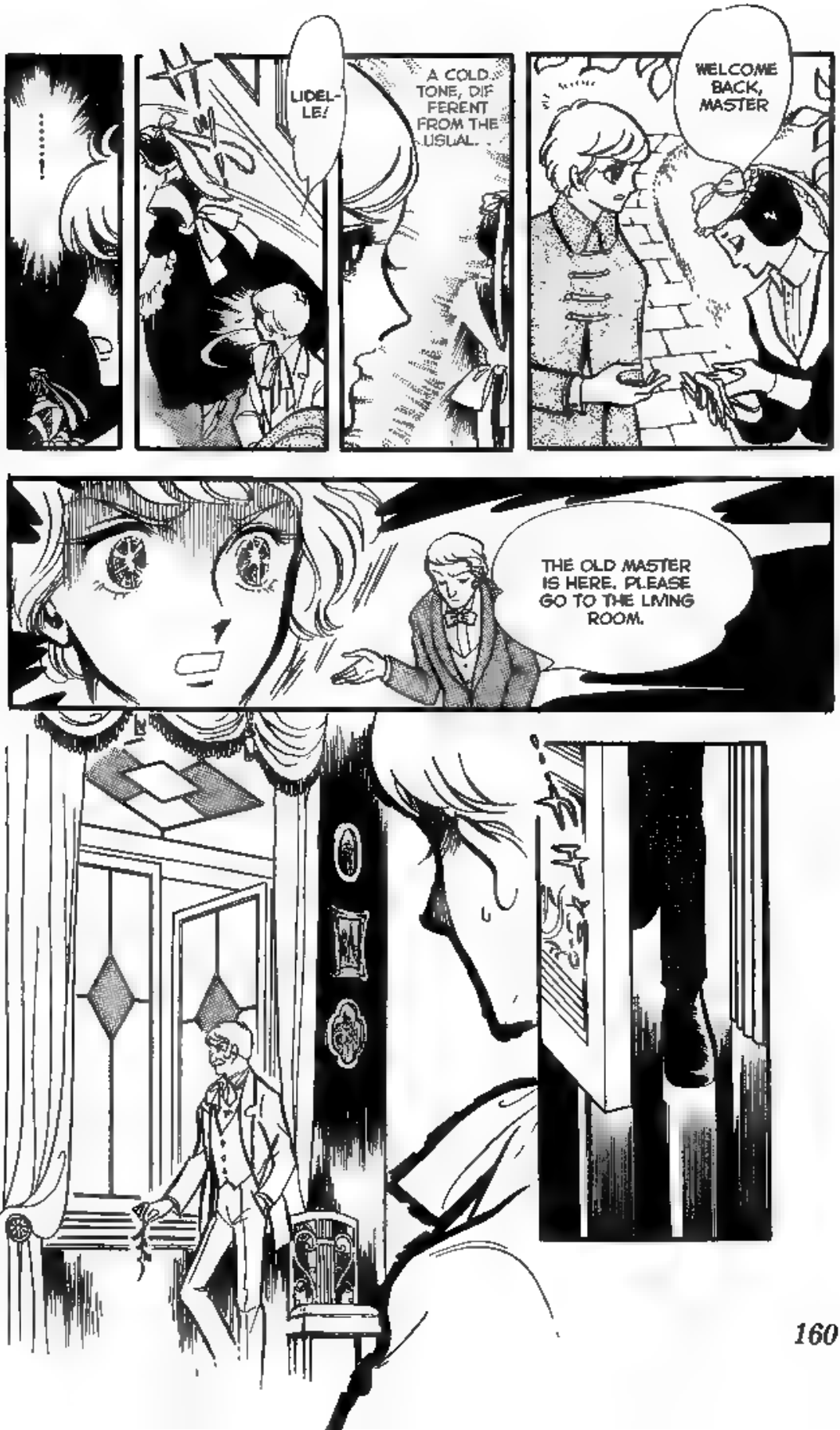

I WAS ECSTATIC WITH JOY
AND DIDN'T THINK ABOUT YOUR TROUBLES.
IS THAT IT?!
ASLAN, ARE YOU OK? THAT'S ENOUGH, GET BACK TO BED.
I LOVED YOU. AND THEN?
I'M LEAVING RIGHT AWAY! BUT LISTEN
DON'T LOOK!
DON'T LOOK AT ME!
ASLAN

I TOOK THINGS TOO SUPERFICIALLY.
DO ANYTHING FOR HER.
I'M NOT DOING ANYTHING TO HER.
NON
BUT CONTRARY TO ALL EXPECTATIONS, YOU WON HER OVER.
ALL I DID WAS MAKE LIGHT OF IT, TELLING YOU WEREN'T GOING TO GET HER.
SO I TOOK THE MIDDLE GROUND.
I KNOW YOU'RE QUITE TAKEN WITH HER
SLEEP ALL YOU WANT.
WELL, I'M GOING.
I'LL BE BACK WHEN MY CLASSES ARE OVER.
I THOUGHT ABOUT A LOT OF THINGS.
FAR COLDER THAN MINE.
WATTS.
THIS IS A COLD ROOM

WHAT ARE YOU THINK-ING!
ASLAN!
THIS IS ALREADY A SCANDAL IN THE HIGH SOCIETY.
.....
YOU'RE THE HEIR OF A VISCOUNT!
UNLIKE US, YOU'RE NOT OF ORDINARY BIRTH.
DID YOU REALLY THINK YOU COULD GET AWAY WITH LOVING A COCOTTE JUST LIKE THAT?
EVEN JUST HAVING A ROLL IN THE HAY WITH HER WOULDN'T BE ACCEPTABLE!

DO YOU NEVER THINK ABOUT ANY-THING?
YOUR BEING IN LOVE
HAS ALL KINDS OF REPERCUS-SIONS ON THOSE AROUND YOU.
FIRST OF ALL, THERE'S NO WAY YOUR PARENT WOULD ALLOW IT.
THEY'D BECOME THE LAUGHING STOCK OF HIGH SOCIETY.
THEY'D LOSE ALL THEIR AC-QUAINT-ANCES.
.....!
YOUR ACTIONS ARE TOO THOUGHT-LESS!
ON TOP OF THAT, SHE'S THE MAR-QUIS MIS-TRESS.
HER PATRON IS NO SUCKER!
THE MARQUIS WON'T BE AMUSED BY THIS!
YES, ASLAN
I'M WORRIED ABOUT IT.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF YOU ANGER MARQUIS GEORGES-LOUIS GARGERE
THERE'S NO WAY A VISCOUNT CAN STAND AGAINST THE POWER OF A MARQUIS.

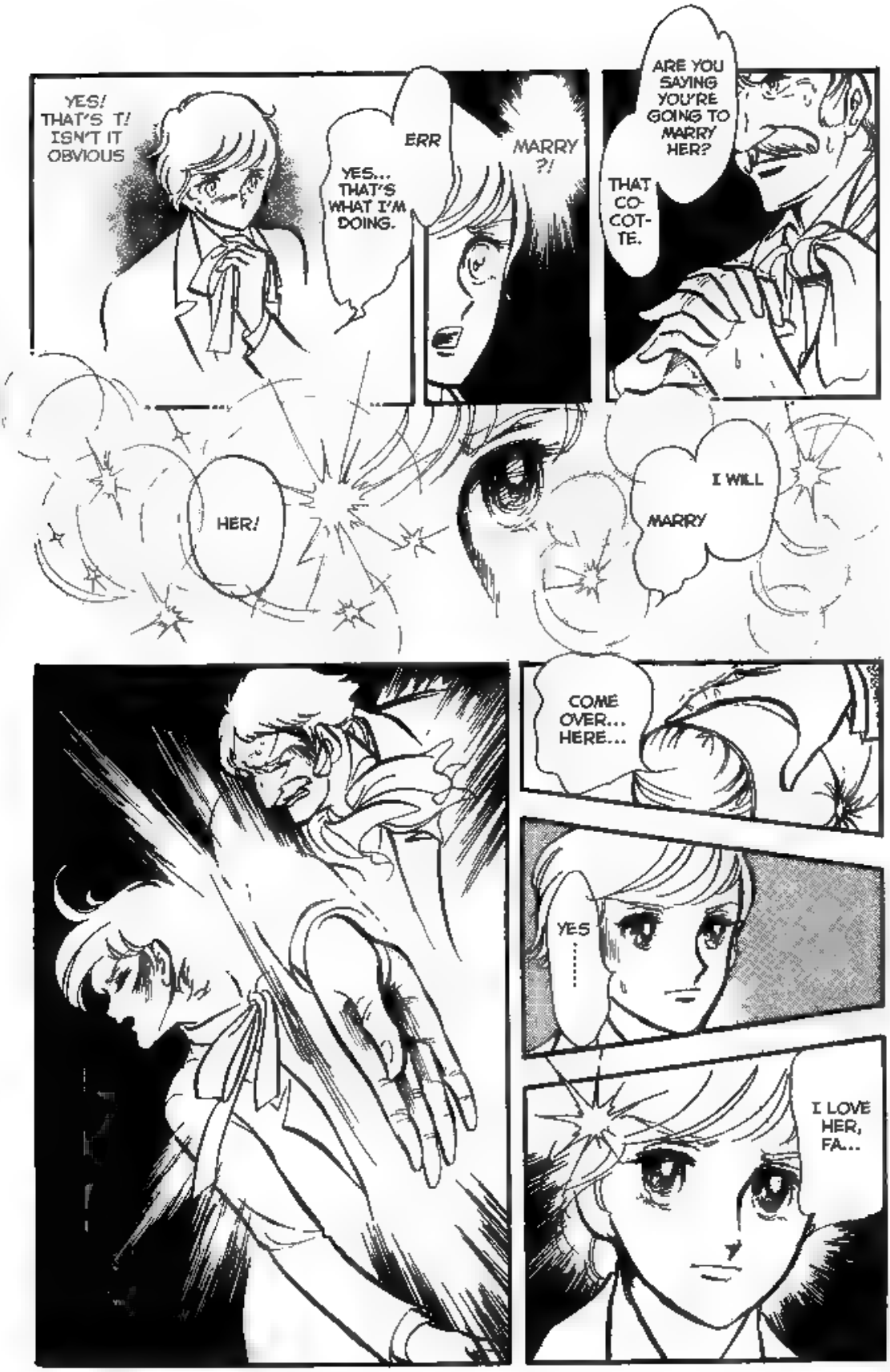
HOW CAN YOU BE SO SELF SH!
YOU ONLY HAVE THE LIFE YOU DO BECAUSE OF YOUR FATHER'S EFFORTS
ASLAN
YOU'RE NAIVE!
YOU'RE JUST A PAMPERED BRAT WHO KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT THE WORLD.
MY HOUSE. THE HOUSE THAT PROVES I'M A VISCOUNT.
EVENTUALLY, IT'LL BECOME MINE...
BUT... IT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE MY OWN YET.
whisper
whisper
OH, LONG TIME NO SEE! HOW DO YOU DO..
OH!


!
LIDEL-LE!
A COLD TONE, DIF FERENT FROM THE USUAL.
WELCOME BACK, MASTER
THE OLD MASTER IS HERE. PLEASE GO TO THE LIVING ROOM.

HE OUGHT TO PROPERLY PICK UP THE DEAD LEAVES.
THE GARDENER HASN'T BEEN THOROUGH WITH HIS JOB.
GREETINGS, FATHER.
STOP ASSOCIATING WITH THE COCOTTE.
ASLAN
MASTER ASLAN!
WERE YOU THAT HURT BY WHAT I DID...
NO
WHY AREN'T YOU SCREAMING AS YOU ALWAYS DO?
WHY, FATHER...
DON'T YOU THINK IT'S STILL TOO EARLY FOR YOU TO BE DOING THAT?

HER NAME IS PAIVA, I NEVER THOUGHT OF HER AS A COCOTTE.
JUST AS A WOMAN...
BE SILENT!! IT'S ALL THE SAME!
WHAT?
SHE'S... PAIVA.
I DIDN'T LET YOU BE INDEPENDENT SO YOU WOULD GO PLAY AROUND WITH COCOTTES!
DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH GOSSIP IS GOING AROUND?
IT'S SHAME-FUL!
FATHER ...!
I CAN STILL DO THAT MUCH!!
IF YOU PLAN ON KEEPING UP WITH THAT SORT OF FRIVOLITY
I'LL TAKE AWAY THAT PRIVILEGE RIGHT THIS INSTANT!

JGH.
YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND
JUST HOW MANY HOPES I HAVE HANGING ON YOU
HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU.
I DO, FATHER.
BUT THERE'S SOMETHING SCREAMING INSIDE ME.
I AM ME.
EVEN IF I'M NOT ENOUGH, EVEN IF I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING, THAT'S WHO I AM.
WELL
WHAT DO YOU PLAN ON DOING?

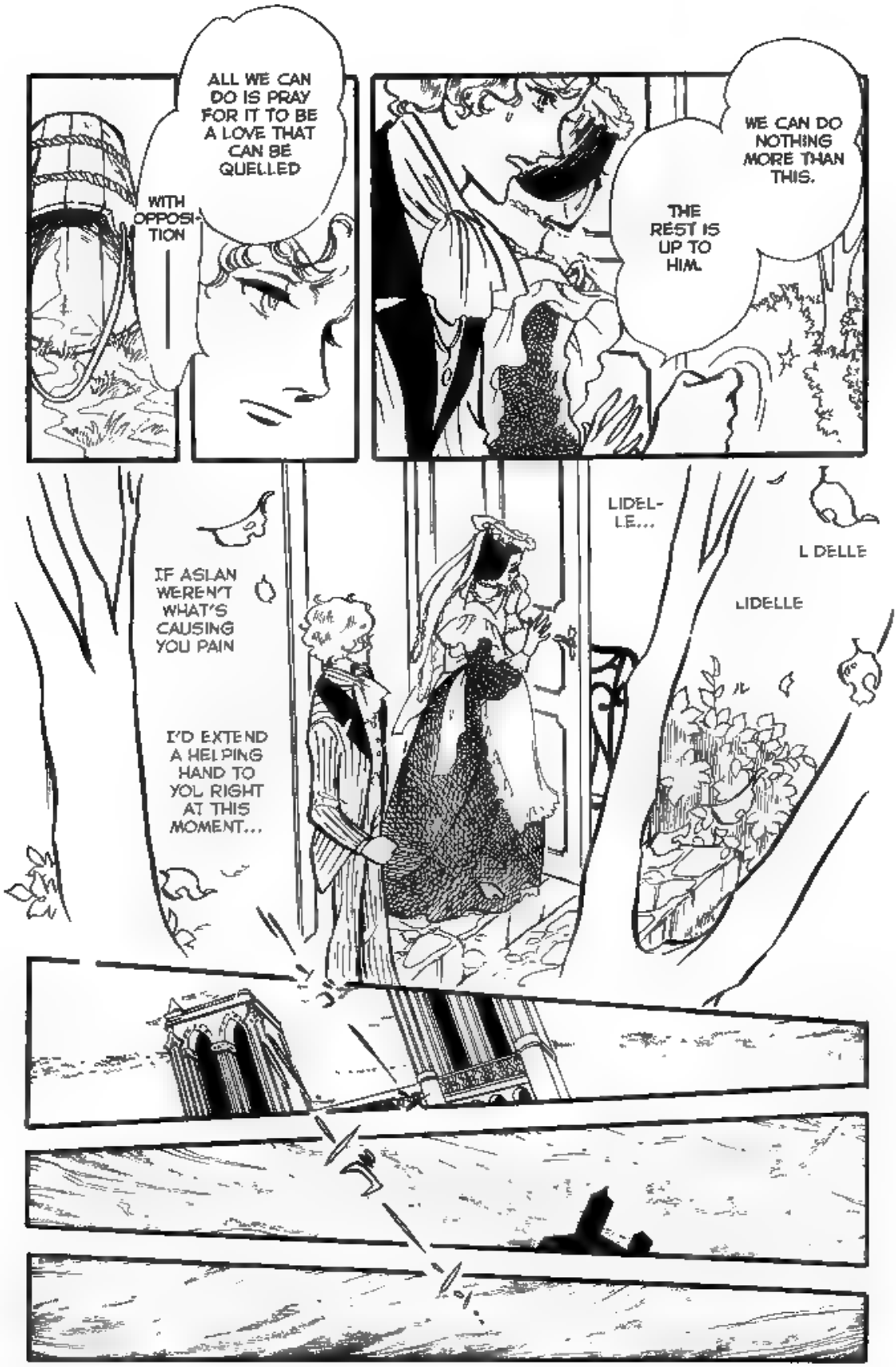

YES! THAT'S T! ISN'T IT OBVIOUS
ERR
MARRY ?!
YES... THAT'S WHAT I'M DOING.
ARE YOU SAYING YOU'RE GOING TO MARRY HER?
THAT CO-COT-TE.
HER!
I WILL MARRY
COME OVER... HERE...
YES.....
I LOVE HER, FA...

YOU BRAIN-LESS FOOL!
L DEL LE!
ガシャン
DO YOU EVER THINK
ABOUT HOW DIS-APPOINTED I AM?!
ABOUT HOW SAD YOUR MOTHER IS BECAUSE OF THESE RU-MOURS?
YES!
NOW... I'M THINKING ABOUT IT!!

I'LL HELP YOU.
HOW'S ASLAN?
HE'S BEEN SHUT AWAY IN THE STUDY EVER SINCE THE OLD MASTER RETURNED...
AND YESTERDAY NIGHT... HE ATE VERY LITTLE...
DON'T BE SHY!
I'M QUITE STRONG!
OH! THAT'S ALRIGHT, M. WATTS.

.....
IT'S BEEN ALMOST A WHOLE DAY.
WHAT SHOULD I... WHAT SHOULD I DO?
I FEAR FOR HIS HEALTH!
HEY, LIDELLE. I BELIEVE HE'S THINKING IN EARNEST.
.....
WHAT TROUBLES HIM...
IS THAT THIS IS DIFFERENT FROM WORRYING ABOUT GETTING A SOLUTION FOR HIS INDIVIDUAL CASE.
SO HE'S THINKING HARD ABOUT IT.
HIS CHOICES WILL CAUSE HARM TO OTHER PEOPLE.

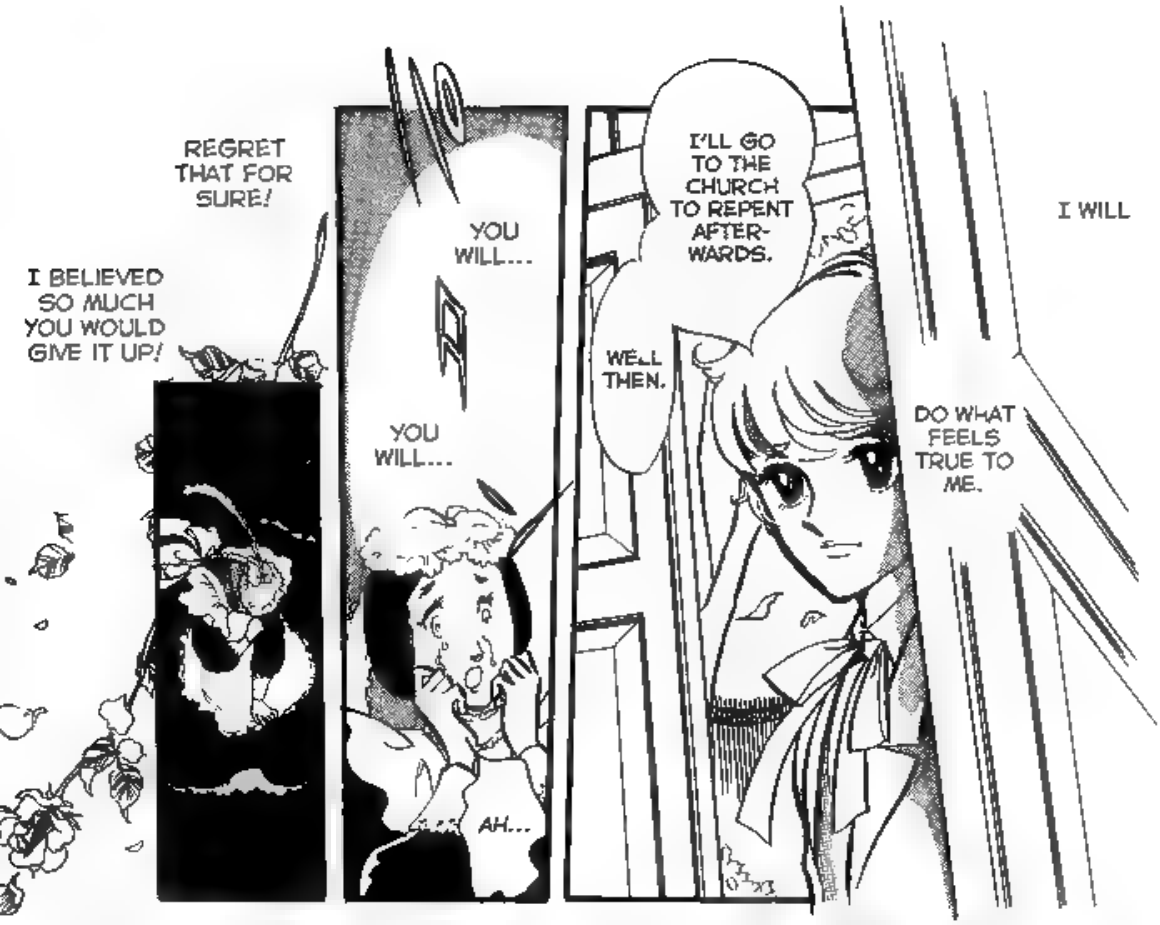
I DON'T GET IT. DIDN'T YOU...
DIDN'T YOU OPPOSE HIM?
.....!
SO HE TOLD YOU TO WATCH HIM CLOSELY?
THE OLD MASTER SAID HE EXPECTED MORE FROM MASTER ASLAN.
AH
I DID.
THEN... THEN WHY?!
WHY IS HE IN LOVE WITH A... WITH A COCOTTE!
AH... AH...
LIDEL-LE!
OF COURSE PEOPLE WOULD OPPOSE! IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE SOMETHING MASTER ASLAN WOULD DO!


ALL WE CAN DO IS PRAY FOR IT TO BE A LOVE THAT CAN BE QUELLED
WITH OPPOSI-TION
WE CAN DO NOTHING MORE THAN THIS.
THE REST IS UP TO HIM.
LIDEL-LE...
L DELLE
LIDELLE
IF ASLAN WEREN'T WHAT'S CAUSING YOU PAIN
I'D EXTEND A HELPING HAND TO YOU RIGHT AT THIS MOMENT...

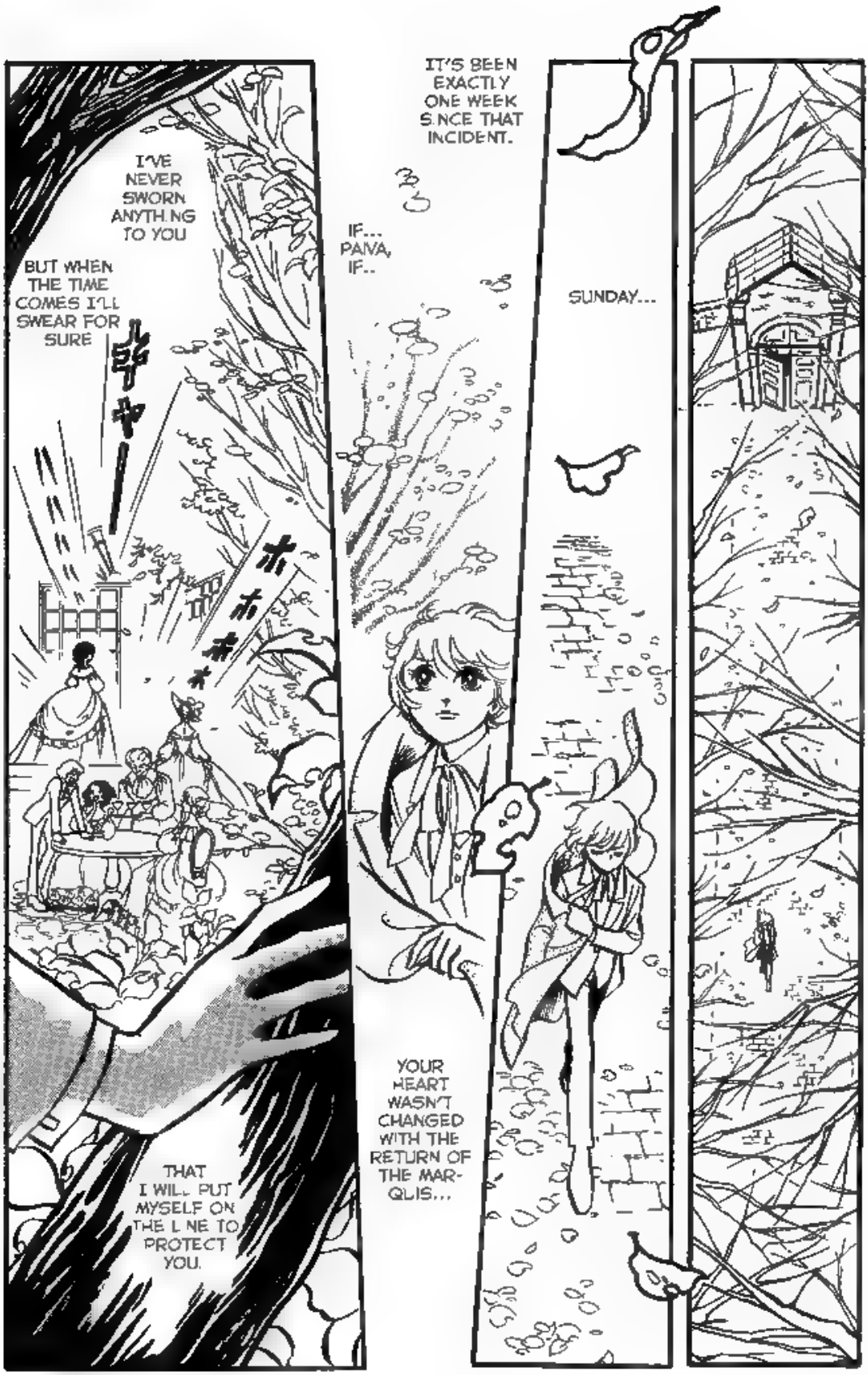
AH!
MASTER?! I'M SO GLAD!
I'LL GET YOU SOME HOT MILK RIGHT AWAY!
LIDELLE, WAIT!
LIDELLE, WERE YOU HERE THE WHOLE NIGHT...
YOU MUST BE HUNGRY! I'LL GET YOU SOMETHING READY!
NON
YOU MUSTN'T!
YOU'LL GET SICK.
I'M SORRY, BUT I MUST LEAVE RIGHT AWAY.

PLEASE UNDER-STAND.
I'LL COME HOME RIGHT AWAY, AND WHEN I DO I'LL EAT ANYTHING AND EVE-RYTHING YOU MAKE ME, I PROMISE.
DON'T WORRY, I HAVE MY HEALTH IN MIND
I MUST PUT MY MIND IN ORDER RATHER THAN MY HUNGER RIGHT NOW
IMPOS-SIBLE!
YOU'RE GOING SOME-WHERE?!
LIDELLE!
IS IT THE CHURCH? TODAY IS SUNDAY.
TO MASS?
I'M NOT GOING TO MASS.
NON
MASTER ASLAN!!
LIDELLE
YESTERDAY I UNDERSTOOD FOR THE FIRST TIME, THAT MY FATHER DIDN'T SEE ME AS AN ADULT.
THAT... MEANS...
NO, NOT AT ALL!
NO, NOT JUST MY FATHER... EVERYONE.

I NOW UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL.
MY SWEET LIDELLE
I THOUGHT ABOUT EVERYTHING AS MUCH AS I COULD
ABOUT THE REPERCUSSIONS OF MY LOVE.
AND THEN I THOUGHT FOR THE WHOLE NIGHT.
TO BE HONEST, I WAS SHOCKED.
I FEEL LIKE I'M BEING TORN APART
WHEN I THINK ABOUT YOUR DEVOTED HEART THAT CARES FOR ME
HEY, LIDELLE
MY PARENTS, AND FRIENDS, AND EVEN SOCIETY. THEY ARE RIGHT.
PLEASE FORGIVE ME.
BUT, AHH.
I AM JUST AS RIGHT!
FOR HER...
TOO
I AM
WHAT I FEEL.
BUT
I JUST CAN'T STOP


I BELIEVED SO MUCH YOU WOULD GIVE IT UP!
REGRET THAT FOR SURE!
YOU WILL...
YOU WILL...
AH...
WELL THEN.
I'LL GO TO THE CHURCH TO REPENT AFTER-WARDS.
I WILL
DO WHAT FEELS TRUE TO ME.

IT HURTS...
HOW PAINFUL IT IS...
TO DO WHAT YOU WANT TO DO.
IT FEELS AS IF I HAVE SWALLOWED LEAD.


I'VE NEVER SWORN ANYTHING TO YOU
BUT WHEN THE TIME COMES I'LL SWEAR FOR SURE
THAT I WILL PUT MYSELF ON THE LINE TO PROTECT YOU.
IF... PAIVA, IF..
IT'S BEEN EXACTLY ONE WEEK SINCE THAT INCIDENT.
YOUR HEART WASN'T CHANGED WITH THE RETURN OF THE MARQUIS...
SUNDAY...

I'M SORRY, YOU CAN'T SIT HERE.
THAT SEAT IS MINE! THE ONE NEXT TO HER, YOU WEASEL!
TCH, IS IT THE SEAT OF THE MARQUIS?
THERE, THERE
THE REASON WE CAN SPEND A NICE MOMENT WITH HER LIKE THIS IS DUE TO THE MARQUIS' GENEROSITY.
HE'S WATCHING FROM SOME SECLUDED PLACE IN THE MANSION.
NO, THAT'S NOT IT. THE MARQUIS COMES NOWHERE NEAR THIS CHAIR
ASLAN!
IS THAT SEAT FREE?
ALL I CAN DO IS LEAVE THIS CHAIR PREPARED FOR YOU...
I'M SORRY, ASLAN.
BONJOUR... PAIVA.
AH, NO, IT'S...

HO HO...
YOU WANT TO SPEAK TO ME?
WHAT AN ODD REQUEST THAT IS.
YOU'RE PAIVA'S YOUNG SWALLOW, AREN'T YOU?
IN THAT CASE, YOU SHOULD KEEP TRUE TO WHAT YOU ARE AND FLY AWAY FROM HER.
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GETTING YOURSELF INTO, IT'S BEST THAT YOU KEEP YOURSELF IN CHECK.
BUT THESE ARE THE WORDS OF SOMEONE MADLY IN LOVE, I SHOULD AT LEAST LISTEN TO WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY.
.....
AH...
FU FU .....
IT'S AI RIGHT.
PLEASE LET ME STAY! I'M IN THIS, TOO!!
YOU DO THAT.
PAIVA, PLEASE LEAVE.
WE'LL TALK LATER

ASLAN, NO...
YOU'RE NO MATCH FOR HIM
YOU'LL GET NOTHING BUT TORMENT IF YOU TAKE THE MARQUIS HEAD-ON!
NO ONE CAN OPPOSE HIM
NO ONE.
YOU'LL JUST BE SEVERELY STRICKEN WITH THE WHIP OF HIS POWER AND WORDS.
FIRST OF ALL, SHALL WE HAVE A DRINK .
VISCOUNT ASLAN BAT-TOUR, WAS IT?
NO, I'M NOT A VISCOUNT YET.
MARQUIS GEORGES-LOUIS GARGERE.

A SWALLOW IS A SWALLOW.
WHAT THEY'RE GOING TO SAY IS NATURALLY DECIDED.
HOW DO I KNOW THIS? EVEN IF IT DOESN'T HAPPEN AS WE SPEAK
BUT MOST CAME BACK TO THEIR SENSES AS WE SPOKE.
IT'S NOT LIKE YOUR CASE IS A RARE ONE.
AND I PLAN...
I SINCERELY LOVE PAIVA.
JUST AS YOU GUESSED
EXCUSE ME
MY HAND SLIPPED BY ACCIDENT WHILE YOU WERE SEEING THROUGH ME.
TO SNATCH HER AWAY FROM YOU!

HOLD ON!
BECAUSE YOU CAN CRUSH ME WITH YOUR POWER
VERY MUCH LIKE A BABY.
I KNOW I AM OVER-STEP-PING
WHAT.....
SNATCH HER AWAY?!
NO.
BE CARE-FUL.
YOU SHOULD BE SAYING "PLEASE ALLOW ME TO HAVE HER", NO?
WHAT YOU MEAN TO SAY ISN'T "SNATCH HER AWAY"
AREN'T YOU CHOOSING YOUR WORDS WRONGLY IN YOUR EXCITE-MENT?
BUT IF YOU WANT TO THINK SO, GO AHEAD.
I DON'T THINK I MIS-TOOK ANY-THING
OTHER-WISE YOU WILL MAKE ME ANGRY WITH YOUR MISTAKE.

IT'S ONLY NORMAL EVERYONE WOULD BE IN LOVE WITH HER.
THERE'S NOTHING TO REGRET, SHE'S YOUNG, BEAUTIFUL AND CLEVER.
HOW REGRETFUL, BECAUSE I LOVE HER TOO.
YES
YOU LIKE HER, RIGHT?
I TOO HAVE THAT RIGHT, YES?
YOU'RE NOT MARRIED TO HER SO...
I'M THINKING ABOUT ASKING HER TO MARRY ME.
FU
SHE CAN'T JUST GIVE THAT UP, OR CAN SHE?
BUT I'M THE ONE WHO TAKES CARE OF HER EVERY NEED...
LOVE CAN'T BE COMPARED TO POWER OR MATERIAL THINGS.
WHEN IT COMES TO LOVES, ONE CAN'T FIGHT WITH ANYTHING ELSE BUT LOVE.

THE SWORD YOU USE TO FIGHT SHOULD ONLY BE LOVE ITSELF.
EITHER WAY, YOU ARE CORRECT.
INDEED, YOU ARE.
AT THIS RATE I'LL BECOME A SCOUNDREL WHO WILL BE DISINHERITED BY HIS FATHER!
I'M NOT A VISCOUNT, MARQUIS.
THAT'S TRUE, VISCOUNT ASLAN BATTOUR!
INDEED!
AND THEN THERE'S THE STATE OF MIND OF THE PEOPLE.
AND UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES
EVERY "BATTLE" HAPPENS IN A SETTING
LITTLE SWALLOW.
BUT YOU SHOULD THINK WELL ABOUT THIS
NOMISUKE
BUT EVEN SO...
YOU WILL INSIST ON FIGHTING...?
OR BECAUSE YOU COULD NOT WITHSTAND SOCIETY'S CRITICISM...
ETC, ETC...
YOU CAN ALSO LOSE BY BEING BETRAYED BY YOUR SUBORDINATES AND AIDES.
JUST LIKE YOU CAN LOSE BY A LACK OF SUPPLIES

YES
YOU'LL LOSE, ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING
EVEN IN THAT SITUATION... RIGHT?
IF PAIVA DOESN'T ACCEPT YOUR PROPOSAL...
IF YOU'RE GOOD ENOUGH TO DEFEAT ME!
GOOD
GO ON, THEN.

I MADE MY INTENTIONS CLEAR TO THE MARQUIS.
PAIVA, LISTEN. LISTEN PLEASE
ASLAN!
AND I HAVE TO FIGHT EVERYONE AROUND ME FOR THAT ..
I LOVE YOU.
SO I WILL MARRY YOU.
OH, ASLAN! BE QUIET! YOU'RE WHITE AS A SHEET!
THEREFORE, PAIVA!
SWEAR TO ME!
IF YOU LOVE ME TOO
THAT YOU WON'T GIVE INTO HIS PRESSURE!
THAT YOU WON'T

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, YOU'LL KEEP ON WISHING ONLY FOR YOUR OWN HAPPINESS!
HMPH
AUTUMN'S ALMOST OVER.
SO PROMISE ME
THAT, FOR MY SAKE
MY WISH IS TO BE HAPPILY TOGETHER WITH YOU.
I'LL THROW ANYTHING AWAY IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THAT.
IT'S GREAT, ISN'T IT, PAIVA?

AND HERE I WAS THINKING HE WOULD LIVE UP TO HIS BIG TALK.
DID HE GIVE IT UP SINCE THAT INCI-DENT?
WHAT HAP-PENED TO YOUR YOUNG SWALLOW, PAIVA?
SEEMS LIKE HE'S NOWHERE TO BE SEEN.
HUM... AT LEAST YOU AVOIDED DOING SOMETHING CRUEL.
IT'S BEST THAT YOU DON'T TEMPT A PROMISING YOUTH IN VAIN
TOWARDS THE PATH TO HIS SELF-DESTRUCTION.
HM
WEL-COME BACK.
I'VE PRE-PARED SOME HOT TEA.
. . . .

THEY'RE CAMELLIAS MARQUIS.
I REQUESTED TO THE FLORIST FOR THEM TO BE DELIVERED EVERY MORNING.
WHAT ARE THOSE FLOWERS?
ASLAN!
ASLAN
THIS FEELS PAINFUL
KEEPING ON WISHING FOR MY OWN HAPPINESS
BECAUSE THAT MEANS
I'M FORCING YOU TO SACRIFICE YOURSELF.
BUT IF I LOSE HEART
THAT SACRIFICE WILL BE FOR NOTHING.
WHEN I SEE THESE TWO FLOWERS THAT COME FROM YOUR HEART EVERY MORNING
I REGAIN MY DETERMINATION
THEY SAY "FLY!"

〈風と木の詩〉⑧＊おわり＊ 週刊少女コミック昭和51年第10号より連載

# 風と木の詩 8

フラワーコミックス

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# The Artemis Project

TRANSLATORS: FERRET & LONDON

CLEANER: VONIBUU

TYPESETTERS:
PLASTIC LIONS & CHIVES

QC: FERRET & LONDON

LEAD SURGEON: CAI

# The Artemis Project

TRANSLATORS:
LONDON
FERRET

CLEANER:
VONIBUU

TYPESETTING:
PLASTIC LIONS

QC:
CASPER
LONDON

ART:
LONDON

Lon Casper
12.25.18